

COLUMBIA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



2023 Annual Report

Annual Congregational Meeting
May 19, 2024



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ANNUAL REPORT 2022

COLUMBIA UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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INTRODUCTION

If there was to be a title to this Annual Report it would be:

“CELEBRATING THE JOY OF CHURCH!”

The Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer, our most recently retired UCC General Minister and President, spoke in detail about The Joy of Church at our Centennial Celebration on September 30; and, since his presentation, we have embraced that theme to lead us through our Advent, Christmas and Epiphany seasons. There is much to be joyful about when you are doing the work of Jesus Christ; and our church exemplifies that joy.

The reports in this Annual Report are tiny glimpses of the joy that is felt day in and day out in this congregation. On just about any given day, a walk down the halls at CUCC brings the laughter of children, the singing of choirs, the people studying God’s Word or preparing for events to come. From LODO toddlers to Women’s Fellowship gatherings, God’s Joy is evident all over this facility.

This year chronicled by this report was certainly a joyful (and busy) time. We quickly raised \$192,000 to remodel our Sanctuary and replace 3 HVAC units, and then very quickly did the appointed work. We spent the summer worshipping in “cozy quarters” while the Sanctuary was under renovation. We held a joyful return to the Sanctuary, dedicating it and sanctifying it to God’s glory. We celebrated our 100th anniversary as a congregation with an elaborate meal and notable guest speakers.

The Joy of Church was expressed in many ways this past year. When we put these reports together, we attempted to reflect that joy. We hope that, as you read them, you also feel The Joy of Church.



-Rev. Rick Oberle, Pastor
Columbia United Church of Christ

NEW CENTURY SANCTUARY FINAL REPORT

In 1989, in coordination with the 20th anniversary of the building of our current church, the congregation of Columbia United Church of Christ embarked on a plan to remodel the Sanctuary. They raised over \$50,000 to purchase chairs, paint, replace the carpet and do some cosmetic work to the worship space. That was the last time a major Sanctuary remodel happened, until this year.

34 years later, the congregation of Columbia United Church of Christ chose to embark on another remodel of the church Sanctuary, in conjunction with our 100th anniversary of congregational ministry. In early 2023, Mike Pierson unveiled the plans the committee had worked months to develop. New Drapes, carpet, windows, chancel backdrop, and a new paint job would give our Sanctuary a “facelift” badly needed. The cost for this project, based on bids received, was estimated at \$125,000. We added in the cost of replacing two HVAC units and set a goal of raising \$150,000.

We began our fundraising campaign in early March, anticipating several months of campaigning. We pledged the congregation that no work would begin until 75% of the total was raised in donations and pledged funds; and we hoped to raise that amount by June 30. The congregation surprised us, though! We had 100% of the total raised (in donations and pledged funds) by April 30!

Contracts were signed in May and work began June 12. The last worship service in the “old” sanctuary was June 11, after which we all helped empty out the space. The next day, window installers came in and began ripping out the old 1969 plexiglass window coverings that encircled the sanctuary. Within two weeks, new energy efficient windows were installed and a stained-glass film was applied to them. The energy savings are significant, and they look a lot better, too!

Painting, carpeting, and the chancel backdrop came next. Members of CUCC showed up several days to paint the “lower” areas of the Sanctuary, in preparation for the professional painters to paint the ceiling and high walls later in the summer. The old fake-wood contact paper was removed from the chancel backdrop and a new, lighter wall covering applied. In due time the paint work was completed and the carpet crews came in to remove the old and install the new. We also had brass railings installed on the new chancel steps to make access easier for worship participants.

Mike Pierson donated a large portion of the work himself, especially the carpentry work. He built the new stairs; stained, wrapped and glued the wood laminate around the chancel stair risers and the hexagonal risers; and finished off the wood trim at the top of the chancel backdrop. All of his woodworking endeavors required hours of arduous cutting, sanding, and especially staining to copy the stain of the “old wood”. In addition to his carpentry work, Mike was the general contractor for the entire project. He put in many hours of labor in painting, hanging monitors and speakers, dealing with and cleaning up after contractors. Mike and Gina applied the opaque film to the windows in the sacristy as well. It was a labor of love, but it was, indeed, labor!

Many thanks to the other folks who helped out, far too many to mention here; but special thanks go to Doug Privitt, Brent Marcks, Fred Malicoat, Brad Marcks, Charlie Marcks, Gina Pierson, Aidan Pierson, Trevor Pierson, and so many others who lent a hand when needed. We estimate around 40 people were present on September 9 to clean chairs, wipe down walls, and prepare the sanctuary to move back in. It was a glorious day!

On September 10, we dedicated our *NEW CENTURY SANCTUARY* to God’s glory as we moved back in. Pastor Rick led us in a prayer of dedication and the ribbon was cut by Melba Shaffer, Alice Moon and Jean Strothmann. We marched into the sanctuary singing and continued our dedication inside.

Our CUCC Youth marched in with the candles, Bible, communion elements, and other elements of worship. It was a day of renewal as we worshipped together in the space where our ancestors worshipped before us.

At the end of 2023, there were a few items left on the “punch list.” The drapes were not in yet, and some woodwork still needed to be completed. But the majority of the work was done. It is a minor miracle that we were able to do so much so quickly, from fundraising to working with contractors, to receiving supplies and installations. In one short year, we embarked upon and commenced an incredible project; and our *NEW CENTURY SANCTUARY* is ready to do God’s work for another generation.

NEW CENTURY SANCTUARY REPORTED FINANCES:

Reported income for NCS

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| NCS General donations | \$152,653.56 |
| <u>Window Dedications</u> | <u>\$39,569.05</u> |
| Total Received | \$192,222.61 |

Reported Expense

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 3 New HVAC units | \$28,344.10 |
| <u>Sanctuary</u> | <u>\$129,080.69</u> |
| Total | \$157,424.79 |

Total Profit

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Income | \$192,222.61 |
| <u>Expense</u> | <u>(\$157,424.79)</u> |
| Total | \$34,797.82* |

*This excess was transferred to the Building Fund Designated Fund (invested with United Church Funds) for future building projects, as was discussed during the fundraising phase of the program.

NEW CENTURY SANCTUARY DISBURSEMENTS:

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Carpet Installation | \$58,363.29 |
| Ceiling Painting | \$13,842.17 |
| Window Replacement | \$24,017.05 |
| Window Film & Application | \$15,552.00 |
| Wall Painting Materials | \$408.41 |
| Brass Railings | \$5,600.00 |
| Window Draperies | \$5,019.00* |
| Chancel Wallpaper Material | \$1,751.70 |
| Chancel Wallpaper Installation | \$1,400.00 |
| Wood for new stairs, stair risers, surrounds for | |
| HVAC Vents, Chancel Wall Ribs | \$1,496.74 |
| Other expenses | \$1,630.33 |
| <u>3 New HVAC Units</u> | <u>\$28,344.10</u> |
| Total: | \$157,424.79 |

*This amount (\$5019) is half the cost of the draperies and was placed in 2023 as a downpayment when the draperies were ordered. The remainder (\$5019) will be paid in 2024 when the draperies arrive and will come out of the \$34,797.82 that was deposited in the Building Fund.

CUCC FOUNDATIONAL STATEMENTS

Mission Statement

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God's boundless love by:

- Welcoming all of God's people;
- Nurturing faith and spiritual growth;
- Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;
- Building a supportive church family;
- Transforming both the congregation and the community through service and outreach.

Core Values

Columbia United Church of Christ seeks to express God's boundless love as it values being:

- Welcoming and inclusive of all people as all are created in God's image;
- Nurturing and supportive of people as everyone is God's precious child;
- Willing to extend God's grace and forgiveness as God extends grace and forgiveness;
- Intentionally aware of others as God is intentionally aware of each person.

Columbia United Church of Christ in its governance values:

- Adherence to the Constitution and Bylaws of the church;
- Intentional inclusion of diverse perspectives and voices on all decision-making bodies;
- Willingness to recognize conflict and resolve difference in a caring and respectful manner;
- Open and transparent decision-making processes;
- Making decisions by consensus rather than simple majority-rule whenever possible.

Open and Affirming/ Inclusion Covenant

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God's boundless and unconditional love by intentionally welcoming and affirming all God's children.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey;
No matter where you are on your faith journey;
No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression or identity;
No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality or politics;
No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status or family structure;
No matter your social, economic, educational, legal or life circumstances;
You are welcome here!

Called by Jesus to be an Open and Affirming, inclusive faith community, Columbia United Church of Christ commits to welcoming everyone into the full life of our congregation. Our paths and voices may differ, but we journey in faith together.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORTS

MODERATOR

Purpose: To provide leadership for the Council and Congregation, working to ensure that the components of the Strategic Plan are executed: to foster a loving Christian environment consistent with our stated Core Values.

Highlights:

Our congregation experienced several major high points in 2023, but two will be talked about and enjoyed for years to come: the New Century Sanctuary Campaign and the CUCC Centennial Celebration. In early 2023, the Council sounded the call to update the sanctuary, and the congregation answered that call by fully funding the needs identified and then some- with excess funds supporting the Building Fund. The updates we made to the sanctuary will be enjoyed by future generations and have truly transformed our worship space. It was fitting that updates were done for the Centennial Celebration. This congregation proved we can throw a party for the ages, and the event at the MU Healthcare Pavilion was one that will live in the memories of all who attended.

CUCC's ministries continue to grow and expand our impact within our doors and out in the community. The addition of the Children's Library has been a great place for our young readers to come and explore ideas and questions about their faith. The Health Ministry, which started this year, held its first Lunch and Learn in February to discuss health and wellness topics. The ministry has brought several speakers to discuss topics of interests to the adults in our congregation. Our Outreach and Advocacy team has also continued to strengthen relationships with Alpha Heart Lewis, the Food Bank, Crop Walk, Loaves and Fishes, the Voluntary Action Center, and Room at the Inn. The Inclusion and Affirmation Team continues to show our presence at the Mid-Missouri Pride Fest and is working hard to find a ramp, so our space is welcoming and accessible to all.

The church experienced several staff changes throughout the year, which has kept the executive team on our feet as we searched for and vetted the absolute best candidates for the jobs. We said goodbye to Music Coordinator Brandon Brown and welcomed Casey Wood into that role. We replaced Organist Amy Crousore with Stephen Jannetti. MJ King is the new Financial Secretary and Administrative Assistant, replacing Raj Tolani and April Rothweiler, respectively. We are blessed with these new folks becoming part of our church family.

As we reflect on the challenges and triumphs of 2023, we also look forward to a rewarding and productive 2024. We must continue to grow the membership, bring in new ideas, and inclusive worship. We need to address budget shortfalls and set spiritual and financial priorities, both individually and as a congregation. This work – together – will continue to spread the valuable teachings of Christ into 2024 and beyond.

Respectfully submitted,
Kurt Heine, Moderator



VICE MODERATOR: VISION TEAM

Purpose: The Vision Team shall be comprised of the Vice Moderator, who shall chair the team, the Pastor, and one representative chosen by each of the ministry teams, and the youth. It shall meet at least twice each year at the call of its chair.

The Vision Team shall review, implement, and propose updates to the congregation's Mission Statement and Strategic Plan; assign responsibility for aspects of the Strategic Plan to the Ministry Teams; receive reports from the Ministry Teams on their efforts to implement those proposals of the Strategic Plan assigned to them and hear from the Ministry Teams assessments of the effectiveness of what was attempted; propose to the Church Council any modifications to the congregation's Mission Statement and Strategic Plan; recommend to the Church Council a plan for the Congregational Planning and Assessment Meeting stipulated in the Constitution.

Pastor Rick, a representative from each worship team, and I met three times in the fall of 2023 to develop a new Strategic Plan for CUCC to carry us into the future. This is not a "five year plan" as we have done in the past, but rather an ongoing Strategic Plan.

We utilized a brainstorming and envisioning process to generate ideas and thoughts. The team carefully considered how we as a church could foster God's mission to each other, to the community, and to the world.

Rather than specific tasks, the vision is broader and considers where we want to be as a congregation in the future.

The ideas developed in the meetings fit within the following four areas:

- * Caring for each other
- * Serving God's World
- * Establishing our Identity
- * Developing our Facility

The team brainstormed ways multiple teams might work on a project together rather than just one team being responsible for the event.

The ongoing CUCC Strategic Plan is not only communal, it is also individual. The Vision Team encourages each congregant to prayerfully consider how they would like to support the mission of CUCC with their talents and live into this Strategic Plan.

The full plan is detailed on the next page.

Thank you,
Jerry W. Kiesling,
Vice Moderator



CUCC STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2024 (and beyond)

CARING FOR EACH OTHER

- ◆ Advocate for policies that provide support for others.
- ◆ Incorporate everyone's talents into the work and life of the church.
- ◆ Formulate support & education classes for parents and children.
- ◆ Improve staff training and professional development.
- ◆ Ensure that our staff are paid just wages.
- ◆ Discern and address the needs of our older members.
- ◆ Strive to meet the needs of our members where they are.

ESTABLISHING OUR IDENTITY

- ◆ Increase public awareness of our mission and location.
- ◆ Increase our advertising/marketing efforts.
- ◆ Consistently canvass the neighborhood north of the church.
- ◆ Attract more members, focusing on youth and diversity.
- ◆ Strive for intentionality incorporating youth and young adults into the life of the church.
- ◆ Strive for intentionality incorporating a diverse community into the life of the church.

DEVELOPING OUR FACILITY

- ◆ Continue to modernize and maintain our building and grounds.
- ◆ Develop a comprehensive maintenance manual with records, goals and strategies for modernization and maintenance.
- ◆ Seek out new ways to utilize our building to enhance our ministry and generate income.
- ◆ Establish financial security for our ongoing ministry programs.
- ◆ Establish our facility as a host site for music groups, choirs, concerts, lecturer series, and other public events.

SERVING GOD'S WORLD

- ◆ Partner with other agencies that share our goals & interests.
- ◆ Create a fulfilling, engaging, inclusive Sunday morning experience.
- ◆ Develop partnerships with others to share our facility.
- ◆ Strive for intentionality in connecting children, youth and adults to outreach and service opportunities.
- ◆ Look for ways to reach out to other UCC congregations and work together for justice.
- ◆ Strive to identify ways that we can be socially responsible and educated in areas of ecological justice, international mission, and other justice issues at home and abroad.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Moderator Kristy Hayward called the meeting to order at 12:17PM on May 21, 2023 in the Fellowship Hall. We had 85 in attendance which met the quorum of 63 members. Stefanie Zimny made a motion to approve the minutes of the 5/15/22 annual congregational meeting and also the minutes from the budget meeting on 11/13/22. A second to the motion was made by Carol Duermeyer.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Sue Ann Schaefer reported that investments did not do well last year. This year has been much better. As of 4/30/23, we are \$6000 under budget in Joyful Giving. As of the end of 4/23, our total balance invested with United Church Funds was \$411,182.

NEW BUSINESS

Kurt Heine, Vice Moderator, presented the slate of candidates for the following positions:

Moderator: Kurt Heine
Vice Moderator: Jerry Kiesling
Recording Treasurer: Christine Staelens
Fellowship & Hospitality: Mary Lorber-Solt
Inclusion & Affirmation: Tricia Price
Membership & Care: Judi Privitt
Outreach & Advocacy: Mark Duncan

The candidates were approved by a show of hands.

The proposal for the amendment to the Constitution was approved by a show of hands. The amendment was in Article VIII, Section 2. The last sentence was changed to read "No business shall be conducted without a quorum present in person or by virtual attendance as established by the Church Council."

HERITAGE TEAM REPORT

Doug Privitt reported that the committee has been busy planning for the big celebration. Melba Shaffer and Jolene Hackman have been putting articles in the monthly Communicator. We will have an ice cream social in July and the big celebration on September 30/October 1. A video was shown that was put together by Dominick Lee. He did a fantastic job! It was slides from the construction of our church. Thank you to those who have taken the time to go through pictures and helped bring the video together.

NEW CENTURY SANCTUARY

Mike Pierson reported that \$136,000 has been raised for the church renovation. Koonse Glass will be replacing 45 window panels starting on June 12. This will take about a week to complete. So after the church service on June 11, we will need to clear out the sanctuary. Church services on Sunday will probably be held in the Fellowship Hall for a few weeks. Ai Painting Plus will start their job in August and carpet will be replaced after that. Window coverings will be the final part of renovation. In addition to the items that have already been included in the renovation, it was also noted that we should clean the upholstered chairs. Hopefully, all will be done by Rally Day, September 10.

SABBATICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Jolene Kirchhoff reported that the committee created a theme, "While the Cat's Away, the Mice will Play". A puzzle was made with pieces that church members would take and complete a task which was on the puzzle piece. It worked well! Rev. Dale Parson filled in the 3 month vacancy of Pastor Rick.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Rick said that he appreciated his 3 month sabbatical, enjoying some time in Chiapas, Mexico. The church is planning a mission trip to Chiapas from October 3 through 10. Pastor Rick said we could help spread the news of CUCC by sharing the CUCC Facebook page on our Facebook feed.

MODERATOR'S REPORT- Kristy Hayward mentioned that the Ministry teams have reported their accomplishments throughout the year. They have all given so much to the service of our church. Kristy also thanked everyone for their support as her role as moderator.

VICE MODERATOR- Kurt Heine reported that the Vision Team has many goals and new growth possibilities for the church. We are exploring and expanding LODO, our partnership with Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School has been good, the Health Ministry team is growing, Inclusion is a big part of our church and we will be updating policies and procedures in the year to come.

FELLOWSHIP & HOSPITALITY- Stefanie Zimny reported that the fellowship events like Fastnacht and the fish fry on Rally Day were fun and successful!

BUILDING & GROUNDS- Ted Dachroeden reported that some of the air conditioner units have been replaced and others will be in the future. We have increased security by installing two new cameras.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP- Keith Birkes asked that members fill out a Time & Talent sheet to let us know where you might fit in to serving CUCC in some way.

INCLUSION & AFFIRMATION- Tricia Price submitted a report.

LODO- Lorry Dreier reported that LODO just celebrated 20 years of being in operation here at CUCC. The library was converted into a classroom which helps with the 80% enrollment. Pre-K graduation was held last week.

MEMBERSHIP & CARE- Jessica Lucas reported that the committee continues to welcome new members, sends cards and visits homebound members. Eat with eight was successful and the Sabbatical get-togethers for Pastor Rick when he returned were good.

OUTREACH & ADVOCACY- Mark Duncan thanked everyone for all of the 23 organizations that CUCC impacts through our budgeted Joyful Giving.

NURTURE & EDUCATION- Lydia Whitacre reported that doing Spirit Sundays once a month seemed to draw more children to Sunday school. Vacation Bible School was headed up by Lena Muench and Gina Pierson. Four young adults were confirmed. Three of those are sitting in on the current confirmation class as support.

WORSHIP & MUSIC- Mike Pierson thanked Pastor Rick, Brandon Brown and Amy Crousore for all of their hard work and dedication.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP- Lena Muench reported that the youth (including 5th graders) have been meeting at Pastor Rick's house once a month for fellowship time. A mission trip to St. Louis is being planned for the end of June.

Lorry Dreier made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second by Carol Duermeyer.

Respectfully submitted,
Audrey Lasley
(filling in for Alethea Tennill, Secretary)



CUCC BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

CUCC Congregational Meeting—November 12, 2023 CUCC Sanctuary

The meeting was called to order at 11:26 a.m. by Jerry Kiesling.
72 congregational members were present.

THE VISION TEAM PRESENTATION

Vice Moderator Jerry Kiesling gave a presentation on the Church's new Strategic Plan, which the Vision Team came up with as a result of several meetings this summer and fall with Ministry Team representatives, and the contributions from their Ministry Team.

What areas do we want to impact:

- Caring for each other
- Establishing our Identity
- Developing our Facility
- Serving God's World

Consider how you as a member may fit into these categories. Prayerfully consider how you would like to help us move forward,

Each Ministry team will take the strategic plan and incorporate it into their mission. We will become more involved in the community, invite speakers and other groups to visit our church. Consider installing a welcoming phrase above the entrance.

2024 PROPOSED BUDGET

Sue Ann Schaefer presented the proposed budget. Footnotes on the budget: Increased Joyful giving by 5%. The Ministry Teams listed more accurate categories to better describe their projects. Reminder to everyone that if we increase the budget, we should prayerfully consider increase our giving percentage.

Anne Heine made a motion to accept the budget, a second by Carol Duermeyer. The motion passed with overwhelming majority.

Ted Dachroeden made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Anne Heine. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alethia Tennill, Secretary



OVERVIEW OF 2023 FINANCIALS – TREASURER

Purpose: To assist the church council by maintaining financial records and providing monthly management accounts to assist in financial decision making.

2023 Financial Highlights:

- Joyful Giving total was \$336,262 and our budgeted goal was \$384,908, leaving a shortfall of \$48,646 under our Joyful Giving goal. We needed to withdraw \$40,000 from our investment account to help cover our Joyful Giving deficit.
- The Designated Funds invested with United Church Funds reflected the improved market conditions and ended the year with a net unrealized gain. The 2023 increase in value, realized and unrealized capital gains, of these funds was \$46,689. Detailed information on these funds is included in a separate Designated Funds report.
- The New Century Sanctuary campaign for Sanctuary improvements was a grand success. Donations for the improvements were \$152,654 for the Sanctuary and three HVAC unit replacement. Window replacement and design donations totaled \$39,569.

Scholarship Fund – Five college scholarships were awarded totaling \$8,000. The scholarship recipients were Shelly Adams, Ember Piersee, Lindsey Oberle, Kaden Lucas and Hayley Dennis. The scholarships were funded from the Scholarship Fund at United Church Funds.

Building Fund – \$11,216 of “new money” was transferred to the United Church Funds Building Fund which represents a monthly transfer of 3% of Joyful Giving. The fourth quarter of 2022 was included in 2023 and the month of December, 2023 will be added in January, 2024. We withdrew \$11,133 from the Building Fund to pay for building improvements.

The 2024 budget was approved at the November congregation meeting.

As treasurer I am humbled by the dedication and generosity of our members. Because of this commitment to our church, we have been able to carry our many local and international services to others AND accomplished a much-needed sanctuary update and improvement. I want to thank the Finance and Stewardship Committee, the New Century Sanctuary team and the Church Council for their guidance and input. I want to give a special thank you to MJ for her commitment to her duties. I couldn't do this without her.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Ann Schaefer, Treasurer



RECORDING TREASURER

Purpose: To receive, record, and deposit all monetary contributions.

Activities/Highlights:

Joyful Giving for 2023 was \$336,261.54 which was roughly the same amount as Joyful Giving for 2022. It was also \$48,646.46 less than the 2023 budget for Joyful Giving amount of \$384,908.00. We had an exciting year celebrating our 100th anniversary and you were quite generous in donating \$192,222.61 to the New Century Sanctuary campaign. This exceeded our goal so the balance will be retained in the Building & Grounds Designated Fund to use for future repairs and improvements.

The 2024 budgeted Joyful Giving is \$404,153.00 which is a 5% increase over the previously budgeted amount. CUCC has a vision to make a big impact in 2024 and beyond, please prayerfully consider how you can help us accomplish this vision through your time and talent and financial gifts.

One of the challenges of church finance is that a large portion of our annual Joyful Giving is remitted to the church in December. It would be helpful to spread some of that giving out over the course of the year. You can set up a recurring giving amount through Kindrid or your bank's bill pay feature. Stock donations and IRA distributions are welcome all year long. We hope that 2024 provides a more steady income throughout the year.



Respectfully submitted,
Christine Staelens, Recording Treasurer



BUDGETED OUTREACH & ADVOCACY DISBURSEMENTS

The following are missions that are supported in our CUCC annual Budget in the following amounts. Some of these agencies receive more than this through special offerings, but these amounts are in our regular budget, approved by the congregation.

| Recipient | Actual 2023 | Budget 2024 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Community Assistance</u> | \$591.97 | \$750 |
| <u>Special Mission Project</u> | | |
| 2023- INESIN Water Sustainability Project; 2024- TBD | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| <u>Wider Mission</u> | | |
| Back Bay Mission | \$1,300 | \$1,300 |
| Eden Seminary | \$1,500 | \$1,500 |
| Emmaus Homes | \$1,300 | \$1,000 |
| Global Ministries INESIN | \$500 | \$500 |
| Global Ministries Melel Xojobal | \$500 | \$500 |
| Growing Hope Globally | \$1,100 | \$1,100 |
| Lydia House | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| UCC Refuge Assistance - International Emergency Fund | \$1,300 | \$2,600 |
| UCC Refuge Assistance - Ukraine | \$1,300 | |
| <u>Local Mission</u> | | |
| VAC | \$3,000 | \$3,000 |
| Turning Point Ministries | \$2,000 | \$2,000 |
| Food Bank | \$800 | \$800 |
| St. Francis and Lois Bryant Houses | \$2,200 | \$2,200 |
| Russell Chapel CME Church Food Pantry | \$300 | \$300 |
| Ronald McDonald House | \$500 | \$500 |
| Patch of Chillicothe | \$900 | \$900 |
| LOVE Columbia Inc. | \$400 | \$800 |
| Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary | \$1,181.50 | \$1,000 |
| Habitat for Humanity | \$950 | \$1,000 |
| Grade A Plus | \$500 | \$500 |
| Fun City Academy | \$500 | \$500 |
| Columbia Older Adult Ministries | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| CMSHTC - Stop Human Trafficking | \$250 | |
| City of Refuge | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| Central Food Pantry | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| TOTAL | \$31,873.47 | \$31,250.00 |

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Columbia United Church of Christ has ten Designated Funds, structured and defined to do specific work of the church. Definitions of each fund are in our “Designated Funds Policy Manual” available in the church office or from a Council Member. These funds include:

Columbia United Church of Christ has ten defined Designated Funds, structured to do specific work of the church. Definitions of each fund are in our “Designated Funds Policy Manual” available in the church office or from a Council Member. These funds include:

| Fund: | Balance 1/1/2022 | 1/1/2023 | 1/1/2024 |
|---|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| *Building & Grounds | \$122,310 | \$58,106 | \$67,312 |
| Chiapas Mission/Mayan Ministries | \$1184 | \$1384 | (\$239) |
| *Memorial | \$9562 | \$8603 | \$9853 |
| *Nurture & Education Ministry | \$9250 | \$8480 | \$10,322 |
| Outreach & Advocacy | \$5385 | \$5935 | \$4288 |
| *Scholarship | \$161,291 | \$121,569 | \$130,498 |
| *Transportation | \$10,169 | \$6816 | \$7806 |
| Worship & Music Ministry | \$4045 | \$3265 | \$3265 |
| *Young Adult/Campus Ministry | \$2304 | \$2073 | \$2374 |
| *Youth Ministry | \$6993 | \$6291 | \$7206 |
| <i>*Invested with United Church Funds</i> | | | |

In February 2022, the Church Council approved a recommendation from the Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team to invest more of our funds with United Church Funds (shown with asterisk). As of January 1, 2024, our balances with UCF for all accounts totaled **\$383,630**. **In 2023 these accounts increased in value by \$46,689 in realized and unrealized capital gains.**

We also added \$11,216 in “new money” to our Building Fund, which was 3% of our Joyful Giving for Q4 of 2022 and Q1, Q2, and Q3 of 2023. (2023 Q4 3% will be added in January, 2024.) We withdrew \$11,133 from our Building Fund to pay for building upgrades. We withdrew \$8,000 from our Scholarship Fund in 2023 to fund five awarded Scholarships to college students Shelly Adams, Ember Piersee, Lindsey Oberle, Kaden Lucas, and Hayley Dennis. We also withdrew \$40,000 from our main investment account to cover our 2023 Joyful Giving shortfall.

The positive growth in the stock market in 2023 was beneficial to our funds and helped correct the values lost in 2022. With the positive forecast of the stock market in 2024, we anticipate future growth in all of these funds. All of these funds are open to estate donations, stock donations, ongoing contributions, or one-time donations. If you would like to set up a recurring gift or an estate donation to one of these, contact me, and we will work together to set that up. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Ann Schaefer, Treasurer



MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

BUILDING & GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM

Purpose: To meet accessible requirements; to protect our investment in the assets of the church; to provide a comfortable, clean, and safe place to carry out the programs of the church; to provide access to the church; to provide parking for staff and participants; to provide an aesthetically pleasing environment; to provide comfort, security, safety, and sanitation; to keep assets in good condition and repair.

Members: John Graves, Doug Privitt, Charlie Marcks, Glenn Duermeyer, Fred Malicoat, Cliff Beckman, Hugo Wilmsmeyer, Phillip Neale, and John Bullerd.

Completed Projects & Repairs (to my knowledge):

- * Cleaned and scooped main sewer line
- * Repaired several toilets with clogs and gaskets
- * Minor repair to kitchen sanitizer
- * Replaced 3 AC units
- * Removed fallen trees and limbs
- * Updated security door system and rekeyed outer doors
- * Updated security camera system and added 2 new cameras

Scheduled for 2024:

- * Washing upper outside windows
- * Look into a water softener
- * Landscaping the front entrance

Respectfully Submitted,
Ted Dachroeden, Building & Grounds Ministry Team Chair



FELLOWSHIP & HOSPITALITY MINISTRY TEAM

Purpose: The mission of the Fellowship and Hospitality Ministry Team is to coordinate events and provide food, fellowship and fun for all in a caring, Christian environment, as well as provide members with the opportunity to become better acquainted with one another.

This is accomplished through several responsibilities of this ministry team.

- * To organize and maintain Sunday morning hospitality, which includes coffee, cold drinks, prepackaged snacks, sometimes donuts, cake, and homemade products. Both set-up and clean-up are completed every Sunday.
- * The second responsibility of this ministry team is to coordinate, plan and implement all church fellowship activities, ie., Advent banquet, End of Year picnic, Rally Day, etc....and to provide assistance to other ministry teams as needed, and or requested.
- * There were seven events coordinated and held by the Fellowship and Hospitality Ministry Team. There were many events that we helped other committees with, setting up, clean-up, providing food, snacks, etc... Being our 100th anniversary year, there were many events being sponsored by various ministry teams that our Fellowship and Hospitality team assisted with.

| | |
|-----------|--|
| February | Fastnacht music and dinner at Church |
| May | Congregational meeting Graduation appreciation day Potluck luncheon |
| June | End of year picnic- around 78 participants |
| September | Rally day - around 86 participants |
| October | Trunk or Treat - 700 bags of candy passed out |
| November | Veterans Appreciation breakfast with special guest speaker Stephen Gaither - around 60 participants |
| December | Advent banquet - around 140 guests served |

This ministry team will continue to address any needs or concerns of the congregation. Encouraging input and listening with open ears to meet the needs of our congregation, to ensure a meaningful and rewarding experience at CUCC.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Lorber, Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team Chair



FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Purpose: This Ministry Team is responsible for oversight of CUCC's finances. These duties include oversight of the church's investments and advising the congregation and Church Council of their status. We compile and prepare the church's annual budget and promote congregational support of the budget. The team is also responsible for the education and implementation of stewardship principles to serve our greater mission through our combined time, talent, and treasures.

Members of this ministry team include: Keith Birkes, Sue Ann Schaefer, Brent Marks, Paula Wilson, Doug Privitt, Charley Marcks, Christine Staelens, Barry Kirchhoff, and Dominick Lee, with special thanks to Pastor Rick Oberle

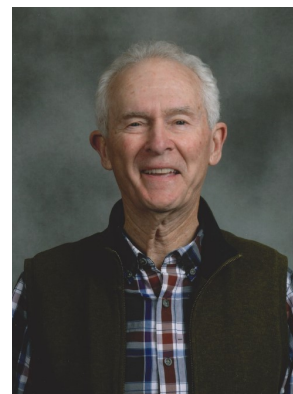
This Year's Activities:

- * Time and Talent sheets were distributed, reviewed, and members were assigned to the ministry teams and activities as requested.
- * Pledge cards were distributed, and responses were tallied.
- * The Committee is informing the Congregation on a regular basis how we are doing with Joyful Giving.
- * Five scholarship applications were approved and the dollar amount of scholarships based on earnings and contributions to the scholarship fund were increased.
- * The 2024 budget was prepared by Treasurer Sue Ann Schaefer, recommended by the Committee, approved by the Council, presented to the Congregation, and approved. The 2024 budget is \$404,153.
- * A 5% increase in Joyful Giving was included in the 2024 budget.
- * 3% of Joyful Giving received will continue to be transferred to the Building Fund to provide for important capital improvements in our 54-year-old church building.
- * Our goal of \$25,000 for Giving Tuesday was not reached this year.
- * Joyful giving for 2023 was budgeted for \$384,908.
- * The Committee will sponsor a stewardship potluck luncheon on 3/17, at which time our church finances will be thoroughly discussed, and the importance of stewardship- particularly planned giving will be discussed.
- * The church policy on gifts and how they are acknowledged was revised.
- * The Committee helped develop a plan to raise the necessary funds to renovate our sanctuary. The \$150,000 goal was reached and exceeded. All funds above \$150,000 went into the building fund and all renovations were completed.
- * Various testimonials about our church have been produced and proved through social media with the expert assistance of Dominick Lee.

The Committee is developing strategies to implement the following specific strategic goals:

1. Sustain financial stewardship efforts.
2. Develop a long-term maintenance and renovation plan for facilities.
3. Strive for an annual 5% increase in joyful giving.
4. Set donation goals for designated funds.
5. Continue to modify and improve financial policies and procedures.

Respectfully Submitted,
Keith Birkes, Finance & Stewardship Ministry Team Chair



MEMBERSHIP & CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Purpose: Our purpose is to enable, establish, and maintain programs to care for members of the Congregation and meet the needs of their membership. We continue to evolve our programs to welcome, support, and integrate our guests and members; keep the membership records of the church current; and implement marketing techniques.

Members of this team include: Sue Beckman, Carol Duermeyer, Helen Schultz, Anne Heine, Jessica Lucas, Audrey Lasley, Bryan Crousore, Jolene Kirchhoff, Susan Dunham, Lea Marienfeld, and ongoing support, ideas and involvement from Pastor Rick .

The Membership & Care Team meets every other month. We've welcomed 9 new members into the church. We also worked hard outside of planned meetings to assure new members are welcomed, life circumstances are recognized, and our congregational members are cared for. A member directory was produced in conjunction with the 100th anniversary celebration of the church. Many thanks to Carol Duermeyer, Jolene Hackman Jolene Kirchhoff and MJ King for their efforts.

Our CUCC CARES (Compassionate Actions Reward Everyone) Ministries continued our task-oriented, hands-on ministries that provide care for our congregation members in time of celebration and need. They include Note Writers/Cards (facilitated by Carol Duermeyer), Handy Helpers (facilitated by Doug Privitt), Visiting Ministry (facilitated by Jolene Kirchhoff and Alice Moon), Meal Ministry (facilitated by Lena Muench), Prayer Shawl Ministry (facilitated by Elaine Trout), Health and Wellness Ministry (facilitated by Anne Heine), Transportation Ministry (facilitated by Judi Privitt), and Prayer Team Ministry (facilitated by Tricia Soncasie and Melba Shaffer). These ministries have become very active in sending cards, planning visits, making hand-made items, providing meal trains, providing rides, and praying for our members. Additionally, "Journeying Through Grief" booklets are shared with congregants during times of loss. These booklets share helpful insights about grief, biblical truths and stories that provide comfort and reassurance.

This year we continued to assure each visitor and member was greeted with purpose and intention. When a visitor is recognized, they are greeted and welcomed with a bag filled with info about our church and how they can get involved. We also encouraged our members to share worship information through social media and sent postcards for Rally Day and Advent.

The Membership and Care Team has several projects in the works for 2024. Discussions and work has begun on:

- * Continue to review and improve our marketing efforts to possibly include "Invite, Include and Incorporate" into future marketing plans.
- * Continue to identify members with various needs and visit them, call them, send cards, and/or prayers and continue to explore possibilities for the transportation to meet members' needs.
- * Continue to follow up with visitors and welcome new members into our church and integrate them into the life of the congregation.

Mother Teresa once said, "It's not about how much you do, but how much love you put into what you do that counts." I give thanks for our Ministry Team members who poured LOTS of love into our 2023 tasks.

Respectfully submitted,
Judi Privitt, Membership & Care Ministry Team Chair



NURTURE & EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM

Purpose:

- * To provide Sunday morning forums to nurture families through Christian faith and challenge faith through learning opportunities.
- * To prepare our youth to be confirmed into the faith and provide them with extended learning and fellowship opportunities.
- * To support our children and youth to attend camp and other educational and outreach events.
- * To provide quality nursery care on Sunday mornings during worship.
- * To coordinate CUCC's annual Vacation Bible School.

Ministry Team:

Chair: Lydia Whitacre (January - August 2023) Pat Forward (September 2023 to Present).

Members: Audrey Lasley, Tricia Price, Barry Kirchhoff, Dorothy Williams, Gina Pierson, Jessica Lucas, Judi Privitt, Kristin Veteto, Kristy Hayward, Lena Muench, Linda Neale, Paula Wilson, Philip Neale, Lydia Whitacre, Yvonne Piersee.

Vision Team Representative: Lena Muench

Ministry Team Subcommittees, and the N & E contact person:

Adult Education: Judi Privitt and Pastor Rick

Vacation Bible School: Lena Muench and Gina Pierson

Children & Youth Sunday School: Pat Forward

Publicity: Lena Muench

Christmas Program: Linda Neale

Nursery Management: Pat Forward

Special Event Planning: Paula Wilson and Judi Privitt

Youth Group: Lena Muench and Pastor Rick

Youth Adults/College Students: Lydia Whitacre

Confirmation: Lydia Whitacre

Fundraising: Lorry Dreier

Sunday School Class Leaders:

PreK - 1st Grade: Paula Wilson, Dorothy Williams, Yvonne Piersee, Kristin Veteto, Pat Forward

2nd - 5th Grade: Gina Pierson, Tricia Price, Linda Neale, Kennedy Lucas

6th - 12th Grade: Lena Muench, Jessica Lucas, Kristy Hayward, Katie Marienfeld

Adult Bible Study: Barry Kirchhoff, Philip Neale, Jessica Jenks, Shelly Adams

Contemporary Issues: Class with various leaders, held on some Sundays during the year.

Confirmation: Pastor Rick and Lydia Whitacre

Vacation Bible School (VBS):

VBS was held July 30-August 1, 2023 (Sunday-Tuesday). The theme was "Hero Hotline." Due to the construction of the Sanctuary, VBS enrollment was limited, with 25 attendees each night, and over 20 volunteers. Lena Muench and Gina Pierson co-chaired.

Nursery:

Summer Lyons and Chloe Grothaus were the Nursery Supervisors on Sunday mornings in January-May, 2023, and September-October, 2023. Laynee Hayward supervised the nursery over the Summer, 2023, during worship, and took over in October, 2023, when Summer and Chloe left.

NURTURE & EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM (CONT.)

Sunday School Classes:

PreK - 12th grade: Shine Curriculum from Brethren Press was used through May 2023. Summer break of Sunday school was June 11 - Labor Day weekend. Beginning in the Fall, 2023, Mini Revolutions curriculum was used.

Adult Bible Study: Studied the Lectionary Text for the Sunday Service that day. Adult Bible Study met on Sundays throughout the summer.

Contemporary Issues:

January 8-15 – Pastor Rick led “Our Missions in Chiapas.”

January 22-February 12 – Shelly Adams led “How to Heal our Divides: A Practical Guidebook”.

March 5-19 – Pastor Rick led a class, “The UCC: Who We Are, History and Polity.”

March 26 – Walter Schroeder led a class, “The History of CUCC.”

September 10-October 8 – Shelly Adams led “The Future Earth” book study.

Confirmation: Sofia Marienfeld-Crenshaw was confirmed on December 3, 2023.

Learning, Fellowship, Educational and Outreach events:

Spirit Sundays, special event Sundays for children and youth during Sunday School,

9:00 - 10:00 am:

January 8, 2023: “All Star Sunday,” with the theme of Epiphany.

February 12, 2023: “Heart Sunday,” in coordination with Heart Health Month activities.

March 12, 2023: “Shamrock Sunday,” learning about the Holy Trinity around St. Patrick’s Day.

April 9, 2023: Easter Celebration with an egg hunt, story, and games.

June 4, 2023: End of Year Picnic, with a preview of 2023’s VBS program, “Hero Hotline,” including a bounce house, games and crafts.

October 22, 2023: “Sunday School All Church Celebration,” was held with Campfire songs, Bible Story, S’mores and hot cocoa, a Jack o lantern craft – all at the Shelter House

November 19, 2023: Pajamarama Sunday, with decorating of Gingerbread Houses.

Youth Group, 6-12 th grade, Activities and Meetings:

January 22 and February 26, 2023 – Game nights held at Pastor Rick’s house.

March 19, 2023 – The youth dyed eggs, played games and filled the Easter eggs for the Easter Sunday egg hunt at Pastor Rick’s house.

April 30, 2023 – The youth met at Pastor Rick’s house, making cookies together.

June 25-28, 2023 – Youth Group Mission Trip to St Louis. Pastor Rick and Jo Ellen Grace, chaperones. The youth attending were Kennedy Lucas, Danielle Dreier, Aiden and Trevor Pierson.

July 30 -August 1 – The youth volunteered at VBS.

October 1 – Cleaned and reorganized the Youth Lounge at church.

November 12– Youth trip to Level Up in Columbia, MO

December 9 – Met at Lena Muench’s house and made treats and cookies for the Cookies by the Pound fundraiser.

NURTURE & EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM (CONT.)

Souper Bowl Sunday: On Sunday, February 12, 2023, the youth collected \$222.89 in donations in soup pots following worship.

Earth Day Festival Booth: April 23, seed packets and a nature scavenger hunt were distributed.

Senior Recognition: On June 4, CUCC recognized eight seniors for 2023 with gift bags, shared a “congratulations” cake, and awarded five educational scholarships to the five 2023 recipients.

Rally Day: On September 10, we celebrated during the Sunday School hour with the theme, “100,” in honor of our church’s 100th Anniversary. Activities were held at the Shelter House.

Third Grade Bibles: On September 24, Bibles were given to three 3 rd graders: Lewis Koerkenmeier, Norah Schultz, Adelynn Zimny.

Blessing Boxes: In October, 2023, 22 Blessing boxes of snacks and treats were mailed to 22 CUCC college kids, and members in the military.

Cookies By the Pound Fundraiser – On December 10, \$864.50 was raised for the Nurture and Education Fund.

Submitted by
Pat Forward, Nurture and Education Ministry Team Chair



OUTREACH & ADVOCACY MINISTRY TEAM

Purpose: To coordinate and encourage participation in local outreach activities; promote organizations included in the annual Outreach budget; promote support for Our Church's Wider Mission and the special offerings of the United Church of Christ; identify non-partisan issues for which advocacy may be appropriate. CUCC has a critical presence with people and resources in our community, nation and globally. Every month CUCC is present in our community, serving and helping others. The activities listed below are a sample of the congregation's Outreach and Advocacy efforts.

Special Offerings and Contributions:

CUCC was again a "Five for Five" congregation, supporting all 5 UCC campaigns—Our Church's Wider Mission, One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Offering (Veterans of the Cross). We supported the Food Bank of Central and NE Missouri (5th Sunday offerings) as they experienced a steep increase in demand with people unable to afford the inflation in food prices. In addition, we collected special offerings for Church World Service Tools and Blankets Sunday; the CROP Walk; Mobility Worldwide; and the Christmas Eve offering went to RIP Medical Debt with every \$1 clearing \$100 in medical debt.

Budgeted Support for Service Agencies:

Through the congregation's generous support, \$25,550 from the general fund was disbursed to 12 local service agencies and 10 state, national and international organizations to assist their work in feeding the hungry, ministering to refugees, serving disaster victims, housing the homeless and providing spiritual support for people in their times of need. The special mission project provided \$5,000 to INESIN in Chiapas, Mexico for a kitchen upgrade and water supply to the kitchen. Pastor Rick and some fellow travelers presented on their mission immersion experience and our global impact.

Gathering Supplies and Gifts:

CUCC donated generously to several collection drives. For our Partner in Education school, Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary, we contributed school supplies and provided snacks for Parent-Teacher conferences; supported Christmas gifts and food for 40 local people and more via the Voluntary Action Center Christmas Drive and money for additional family needs.

Faithful Service:

CUCC had groups each month at The Food Bank volunteer opportunity, and many CUCC groups and individuals helped Audrey Lasley serve meals to homeless and low-income people every third Monday at Loaves and Fishes (Wilkes Blvd. Methodist Church). Volunteers picked up bags of trash near the church during Clean-Up Columbia Day in April. The Alpha Hart Lewis partnership in education has been held up as a model for faith and community partners with CUCC receiving a special presentation of thanks from the AHL principal. Thanks to Llona Weiss and the faithful team of volunteers and our church's generous contributions to the staff and families.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Duncan, Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team
Chair



OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION

CUCC Remittances to Our Church's Wider Mission 2010-2023

| | | | |
|------|----------|------|----------|
| 2023 | \$15,000 | 2016 | \$10,000 |
| 2022 | \$15,000 | 2015 | \$9,844 |
| 2021 | \$14,000 | 2014 | \$9,844 |
| 2020 | \$13,020 | 2013 | \$10,431 |
| 2019 | \$12,600 | 2011 | \$9,300 |
| 2018 | \$12,000 | 2010 | \$8,550 |
| 2017 | \$10,000 | | |

What is Our Church's Wider Mission? It is *not* an Outreach program; it *is* about identity. Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) is who we are as Christians, acting out love in God's World. OCWM is who we are as God's Children!

Where does the money go? When we remit our OCWM contributions each month, 80% of the funds stay here in the Missouri Mid-South Conference to undergird and support Camps MoVal and Shannondale, to support the ministries of the Conference, to support churches in need, to provide pastoral assistance for churches in the search process, to provide revitalization resources for churches seeking new growth and vitality.

Twenty percent of the funds we send are remitted to the National Setting of the United Church of Christ where they are used to fund our missionary work overseas (such as the work being done in Chiapas): to provide resources for clergy and churches seeking growth and revitalization, to help churches who are struggling, to advocate for those who are disenfranchised and in need of God's healing love, to enable youth programming throughout the denomination, to change lives and transform the world into an image more reflective of God's passion for shalom.

Our budgeted amount for 2024 is **\$12,000**. Reflecting on the current state of the Conference we felt it prudent to adjust our annual contribution amount a bit. However, we continue to be a strong donor in the Conference and intend to maintain our commitment to our identity as Christians by supporting Our Church's Wider Mission.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Rick Oberle, Pastor
Columbia United Church of Christ



CHIAPAS MISSION REPORT

The year 2018 was the beginning of the relationship between Columbia United Church of Christ and our Global Mission Partners in Chiapas. After a year of studying about the culture and climate of Chiapas, in October 2018, seven CUCC members travelled to Chiapas for our first ever Mission Immersion Experience. It was quite an exciting time as we learned about the people of Chiapas and the context in which they live. Our hearts were changed forever by our experiences in Chiapas.

There are two agencies we work with directly: The Institute for Intercultural Studies and Research (“The Institute” or “INESIN”) and Melel Xojobal. Both agencies are Global Missions Partners, supported by Our Church’s Wider Mission and One Great Hour of Sharing.

I had the opportunity to work with both of these agencies the month I lived in Chiapas during my sabbatical in 2022. I was very impressed with the work they are doing and the changes they are bringing to these oppressed communities.

In 2023, our CUCC delegation returned to Chiapas! Seven of us made the journey October 3-10, learning from the people of Chiapas and immersing ourselves in the community. During our trip we learned how to make tamales and tortillas, we visited a rainforest and some Mayan ruins, we took a trip on a Mexican river to learn about the flora and fauna and history of the region, we learned about Mayan spirituality and built a Mayan altar, and we worshipped in a local Independent Christian Church where I delivered the sermon that Sunday (with the help of a translator). We even celebrated the wedding of Keith Birkes and Deborah Long!

We also participated in a protest march organized by Melel Xojobal to raise awareness of the rights of children in San Cristobal. Children, especially girls, are disenfranchised by the culture and in the indigenous communities, education is devalued. This march lifted up the rights of children, especially girls, and helped restore some of the dignity that has been taken away from them. We spent much time working with Melel, and were impressed not only by the work they are doing, but also by how they have had to evolve since 2018.

The purpose of our trip was not to construct a building or dig latrines. When US missionaries indulge in that sort of behavior, they are simply taking skilled labor away from Indigenous Contractors who really need the employment. Our purpose was to immerse ourselves in their context, to learn from them, and to build relationships. Education and relationship building was our goal, and we succeeded in our endeavor. The bonds we built will last a lifetime.

We now have 13 CUCC members who have made the journey to Chiapas, and we hope to bring more! We have another trip planned for this June; contact Pastor Rick or Mark Duncan for more details!

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Rick Oberle, Pastor
Columbia United Church of Christ



WORSHIP & MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

PURPOSE: To assist and support the Pastor and the Music Coordinator in their coordination of praise, thanksgiving, confession, and faith response that connects worshippers to God.

The Year of 2023 was a time of celebration and change in music and worship at Columbia United Church of Christ. The Centennial Celebration was a main focus throughout the year, culminating in the Celebration on October 1st that included the alumni choir with former conductors Brandon Brown and Virginia (Rathert) Zetterberg leading two anthems. During the summer, we had a change in leadership and servanthood in the music department. Both Brandon Brown (Music Coordinator) and Amy Crousore (organist/accompanist) left the church to find new musical paths in their respective lives. Casey Wood, a Master's student in Choral Conducting at MU, was hired to be the new Music Coordinator starting in August. In late October, Steven Jannetti, from Jefferson City, was hired to be the new organist/accompanist. Both men bring a good amount of musical and leadership experience. The established practice of utilizing section leaders for the choir continued. Three new section leaders (soprano, alto, and tenor) were selected by Casey in early September from the MU Department of Music.

We continued reaching folks who were not able to join us in-person by way of our streamed services on YouTube. That continues to be an important link to the community (and all parts of the world) and a method of attracting potential future members. To staff our needs in the technology booth, weekly volunteers/technicians continue to operate the sound and video equipment. Doug Privitt faithfully does a great job of recruiting additional volunteers. We are always looking to train new volunteers to operate the soundboard/sound system, as well as the live streaming software and hardware.

The Chapel Ringers and Celebration Singers presented many powerful, individual Sunday performances, along with a "Sermon in Song" December 10th filled with a variety of exciting and poignant songs.

The Banner Team of Jo Ellen Grace, Jolene Hackman, Connie Loveless, Lea Marienfeld, and Melba Shaffer met multiple times to refurbish several older banners that were in need of repair.

The largest change of the year, structurally, was the (near) completion of the sanctuary renovation. This project – entitled "New Century Sanctuary" – has been, to date (January 2024), completed including brand new carpet, windows and window film, wall paint, wood work, and wallpaper. New curtains are still in the works for later this winter. The project, with a budget of \$150,000 (also including 3 news AC units), was fully funded through generous donations large and small from the congregation along funds from a few fundraising events. We thank God for the beautifully refurbished worship space and pray that our all who enter there feel welcome and comfortable and inspired in that space.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Pierson, Worship & Music Ministry Team Chair



INCLUSION & AFFIRMATION MINISTRY TEAM

Purpose: To exemplify with intention our church's inclusive expression of faith.

Members: Tricia Price (chair), Tricia Soncasie (secretary), Alisa Lau-Sieckman, Elaine Trout, Kristy Odneal, and Pastor Rick Oberle.

In January, we sponsored a table at the Columbia Values Diversity Celebration. We also celebrated the fourth anniversary of our CUCC Open and Affirming (ONA) Covenant in January. We continued to live into our Covenant throughout this year, trying to look at all our church's ministries through a lens of inclusion, and always ask what we could do to be more inclusive of all God's children.

We continued with Inclusion Moments in church, Communicator articles, and bulletin inserts about important people in history and current events that church members might want to know more about. Pastor Rick ran a book study on a book about racism in the spring.

In March Pastor Rick and MJ ran a booth at an MU career fair, to recruit staff for LODO and choir section leaders, and to advertise our church to the college students. Also in March, we researched Rev. Wilke, who pushed for inclusion in our church in the 1940s, and shared information about him at the Heritage Team event. We also co-sponsored a Women's Music Festival at the Blue Note in March.

In May we organized a Black History Tour of Columbia, and eight people attended. We enjoyed lunch at a local Black-owned restaurant and learned a lot on the tour. We transitioned to meeting only every other month in the summer.

In September we had a booth at PrideFest. The nine volunteers who staffed the booth talked to many people, as well as giving out 1500 packets with information about our church. Pastor Rick also gave "glitter blessings" to several hundred people. This expression of affirmation and restoration of dignity was very moving for many.

We are excited to tell you all about the new Children's Bookshelf located in the back of the sanctuary. The selection of children's books has been carefully curated by our Team to include diverse, open, and some unexpected books that carry insights into the mystery of God. We encourage folks, kids and adults alike, to check out our wonderful new collection. Inside each book are a few suggested questions to help you explore the books and the spiritual ideas hidden within them.

We are now planning for 2024, focusing on information to be shared during Black History Month, Women's History Month, Pride Month, and more, as well as celebrating the national UCC ONA Sunday and the anniversary of our local CUCC ONA covenant. Our ministry team is always open to new ideas if there are other topics you would like to see addressed. We would love to have assistance from anyone else who feels inspired to include everyone fully in our church life and affirm every person's worth, no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Price,
Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Team Chair



HEALTH MINISTRY CARE TEAM

Purpose:

We established our Health Ministry Care Team with the goal to assist members and their families in meeting their health needs (mind, body, and spirit) through education, support, advocacy, and transportation. We're composed mainly of nurses, but have other volunteers who help with transportation to health care appointments and other necessities as well as calling those on our prayer list.

Accomplishments:

- * Held educational sessions after church to help provide information and encourage people to share their readings with their healthcare providers.
- * Purchased 3 new First Aid Kits and supplies, including a stethoscope, O2 saturation monitor, blood sugar monitor, sugar tablets, Narcan, and a blood pressure cuff.
- * Implemented a Blood Pressure Check program, where we take blood pressure on those interested when we have congregational events.
- * Created a new contract with Dr. Steve Keithahn as a medical director, saving the church a total of \$400 a year on their AED program. We also purchased new AED pads and a binder with procedures and other information (found above the AED).
- * Held our first **Lunch and Learn** on 2/12, where Stefanie Zimny taught CPR/AED training to a total of 20 participants who got to enjoy a heart healthy lunch.
- * Demonstrated where the AED, and AED binder, are located and how to properly use it during church announcements.

Events:

- * **Stay & Learn: Keep Your Keys** - June 11, 14 participants
- * **Dementia** - July 16, 20 participants
- * **Lunch & Learn: Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR)** - November 5, 26 participants

We are offering an 8 week class on Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction Jan. 7- Feb. 28, 2024. 18 participants have registered for the class.

Join our team! We'd love to have you! Things you could help out with are: transportation of CUCC members to health care visits; visit those who could use some company; or call and check on those in need on our prayer list. Contact Anne Heine at Heine@missouri.edu if interested.

We're here for you. Call if you need help with any health-related issues, transportation to a health care appointment, or if you have questions about your health care.

Your UCC Health Ministry Care Team:

Anne Heine, Mona Dachroeden, Mary Lorber-Solt, Emmalee Heine, Stefanie Zimny, Jolene Kirchhoff, Melba Shaffer, Lloyd Viehland, Pastor Rick.



Respectfully Submitted,
Anne G. Heine

HERITAGE TEAM

Members: Kristy Odneal, Audrey Lasley, Jolene Hackman, Jim Loveless, Connie Loveless, Melba Shaffer, Dorothy Vetter, Jan Barry, Dean Barry, Pastor Rick Oberle, and Doug Privitt.

The Heritage Team put together a nearly year long celebration of our history.

On January 22, we celebrated 100 years as a congregation with a pot luck dinner after worship. Jolene Hackman and Melba Shaffer put articles in the Communicator each month highlighting different periods of the past 100 years. We highlighted different years at our events throughout the year. Todd Hackman, Carole Barner, and Josh Privitt came back to tell us how our church helped influence them to attend seminary. Walter Schroeder talked about the early history of our church.

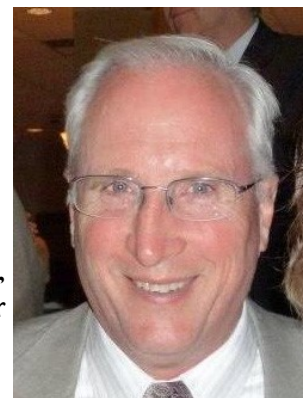
On September 30, we held a catered dinner by Tammy Pryor at the Farmers Market/MU Pavilion. Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer was the key note speaker for the event. Clayton Hicklin provided the music and the sound system. A big thank you to him, and to Kristy Hayward for coordinating his music!

At worship on October 1, we culminated the weekend with Rev. Jerry Jordan, Rev. Fred Brandenburg, and Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer. There was also a choir reunion of past and present choir members during the service. Past choir directors, Brandon Brown and Virginia (Rathert) Zetterberg, came back to direct alongside the current choir director Casey Wood. The Bell choir also joined in on the celebration. It was a wonderful weekend!

Thank You to the Heritage Team Committee for their work on the celebration!

CELEBRATING OUR PAST, EMBRACING OUR FUTURE!

Respectfully Submitted,
Doug Privitt, Heritage Team Chair



LITTLE ONE'S DAY OUT

REPORTS

LODO MINISTRY TEAM

PURPOSE: To guide Little One's Day Out (LODO) in supporting families in their children's education and nurturing children in a Christian setting.

LODO became a part of CUCC when the preschool doors opened in the fall of 2002. Erika Maltsbarger has served as the Director since 2015, and began working at LODO in 2011 as a teacher. LODO remains a high-quality preschool program and operates with caring, experienced teachers and aides.

The presence of energetic LODO children in our building is refreshing and reminds us of the innocence of children and how impressionable children are. Director Maltsbarger and her staff continue to do an amazing job coordinating learning through fun age-appropriate activities for the children while serving the community through outreach. LODO staff's strong commitment and dedication is evident in the love and education provided to students and families and help make the LODO program successful.

The LODO Ministry Team continues to function as oversight to the preschool and the LODO Ministry Team Chair is a member of the Church Council. The Team provides input and assistance to Director Maltsbarger and approves policies, practices, and handbooks. The team meets as needed, but at least quarterly to review financial statements, enrollment, activities, concerns, and offers input and advice. Ann-Stone Meyer and Linda Neale completed their terms in June. Many thanks to them for their time and service! Carissa Graves and Kim Oberle graciously agreed to serve and began their three-year terms.

CURRENT MINISTRY TEAM MEMBERS:

Lorry Dreier, Ministry Team Chair
Jolene Kirchoff, Secretary
Susan Dunham
Jo Ellen Grace
Carissa Graves
Kim Oberle
Darla Privitt

Enrollment fluctuated and we ended the year at 76 percent enrollment. LODO serves one CUCC family. Thank you to everyone who supports LODO through your time, donations, and encouragement.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lorry Dreier, LODO Ministry Team Chair



LODO PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

Mission: Little One’s Day Out (est. July 2002) is designed to support families in the education and nurturing of children in a Christian setting. (LODO Policies & Procedures Manual). This outreach ministry of CUCC continues to serve families of Columbia and the surrounding area. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm during the academic year. “LODO Plus” hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday during the academic year. LODO Plus is available to children enrolled in the Lambs, Lions, Leopards or Leap Frogs regular program. We strive to provide a loving environment, nutritious snacks, developmentally appropriate activities, positive family interactions, and fun for all children ages 1-5 years.

Vital statistics (January 2023 - May 2023)

70.2% Average Enrollment

| Class | Age | Average # of Children | | | | |
|----------------|--------|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
| Lightning Bugs | 1-2 yr | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Lambs | 2-3 yr | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Lions | 3-4 yr | 5.5 | 4.5 | 7 | 5.5 | 5 |
| Leopards | 3-4 yr | 3 | 6.5 | 3.5 | 6 | 0 |
| Leap Frogs | 4-5 yr | 7 | 8.5 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 6 |
| LODO + AM Only | 2-5 yr | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1.5 |
| LODO + AM/PM | 2-5 yr | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 7 |

Vital statistics (September 2023 - December 2023)

78.7% Average Enrollment

| Class | Age | Average # of Children | | | | |
|----------------|--------|-----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| | | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri |
| Lightning Bugs | 1-2 yr | 3.5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Lambs | 2-3 yr | 6.5 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 7 |
| Lions | 3-4 yr | 5 | 4.5 | 7 | 7 | 5 |
| Leopards | 3-5 yr | 5.5 | 7.5 | 5.5 | 6.5 | 5 |
| Leap Frogs | 4-5 yr | 6.5 | 8 | 6.5 | 7.5 | 3.5 |
| LODO + AM Only | 2-5 yr | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| LODO + AM/PM | 2-5 yr | 14 | 9.5 | 14.5 | 12 | 6 |

Enrollment statistics (January 2023 - December 2023)

| Months | Average Total Enrolled Children | Average Total Enrolled Families | Average Daily Enrollment |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| January - May | 50.7 | 47.3 | 28.4 |
| September - December | 56.5 | 48.5 | 29.8 |

January 2023 – May 2023: 2 CUCC families served

September 2023 – December 2023: 1 CUCC family served

LODO PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

Notable Program Activities of 2023

- January Return from Christmas Break
- February Valentine's Day Classroom Parties
Enrollment for Fall 2023
Math & Science Night
- March Parent/Teacher Conferences
KidSight Vision Screenings
Staff Attended Conference on the Young Years for Professional Development
- April Literacy Night
Easter Classroom Celebrations/Egg Hunt
Celebrated the 20th Anniversary of our LODO Preschool Ministry
- May Teacher Appreciation Week
Spring Family Picnic
Pre-K Graduation
- June Closed
Replaced Climber on Playground thanks to
Donations from LODO and CUCC Families
Replacement of Flooring in the Lightning Bugs Room
Repainting of Lightning Bugs, Lambs, and Leopards Classrooms
Repainting of LODO Hallway Bathroom
- July Closed
Floor Maintenance in Lambs, Lions, Leopards, and Leap Frogs Classrooms
- August Closed
Teacher Workdays
Back to School Night
Addition of a Portable Sink in the Leap Frogs Classroom
Air Purifiers Added to All Classrooms and LODO Office
(Provided for Free by the Missouri Department of Health.)
- September Expanded the LODO+ Program from 10 to 16 children per day.
Fall Family Picnic
- October LODO Pumpkin Fun Day
Johnson Photography School Pictures
Halloween Classroom Celebrations
- November Thanksgiving Feast
VAC Holiday Service Project
- December Parent Teacher Conferences
Christmas Program

Respectfully Submitted,
Erika Maltsbarger, LODO Director



STAFF REPORTS

PASTOR'S REPORT

*Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!
Worship God with gladness; come into God's presence with singing!
Know that the LORD is God. God made us and we belong to God.
We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.*

*Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.
Give thanks to God, bless God's Holy Name.*

*For God is good;
God's Steadfast Love endures forever, and God's faithfulness lasts to all generations!"*

-Psalm 100

Psalm 100 has been a central part of worship for thousands of years, from the ancient Hebrew People to modern expressions of Christianity. It is an element of both Catholic and Protestant liturgy. It has been set to song, canted, recited responsively and used as a text for prayer. It was one of the first Psalms translated in to German by Martin Luther, and one of the Psalms Isaac Watts set to hymnody (in fact, twice). It is truly one of the most beloved of all the Psalms.

It also is a great life lesson for practicing Christians, or anyone looking to lead a life filled with joy and purpose. Making Joyful Noise to God is the beginning of a joyful, purposeful life. The instructions in Psalm 100 are a lesson in attitude. We are called to worship joyfully, selflessly, gratefully, humbly, and expressively; all of that in four short verses. The fifth verse assures us that God is steadfast and eternal and worthy of our praise. As a roadmap on how to live, Psalm 100 is exemplary.

In our world, we seem to have forgotten how to live joyfully. We often substitute happiness for joy; but happiness is fleeting. Things make us happy, and when we tire of those things (or they break, leave us, or are stolen) our happiness is gone. Then we frantically search for the next thing to make us happy. But Joy is different. Happiness comes from external sources; Joy comes from within. Joy is cultivated by practicing disciplines that create internal joy, such as the practices articulated in Psalm 100. As our world drifts further away from spiritual practice, our world drifts further away from Joy.

The fear that we see lived out in actions such as the Epiphany insurrection three years ago, hatred focused on minorities and immigrants, and attempts to diminish educational opportunities and health care rights for women are examples of lives devoid of joy. This sort of fear has reached a fever pitch in our culture in the past decade, and it threatens to destroy us. Faith has been replaced by oppressive religion, the Bible is used as a weapon to beat others down, and Jesus has been turned into a warrior. These intellectually devoid expressions are perpetuated by children of God are not bringing people closer to God; they are, in fact, driving people away. They are based in fear.

The time has come for God's faithful children everywhere to put aside the fears that society threatens to heap upon us and embrace the joy that God intends for us. After the Epiphany, 2021 insurrection that tried to use Christianity to justify narcissistic hostility, an organization was formed called "Christians Against Christian Nationalism." The mission of this organization is to return Christ to Christianity and stand against attempts to use faith as a divisive, partisan weapon. Their goal is to restore the Joy that has been stolen from our faith by Christian Nationalism.

PASTOR'S REPORT (CONT.)

Their stated purpose and mission:

“As Christians, our faith teaches us everyone is created in God’s image and commands us to love one another. As Americans, we value our system of government and the good that can be accomplished in our constitutional democracy. Today, we are concerned about a persistent threat to both our religious communities and our democracy — Christian Nationalism.

As Christians, we are bound to Christ, not by citizenship, but by faith. We believe that:

- People of all faiths and none have the right and responsibility to engage constructively in the public square.*
- Patriotism does not require us to minimize our religious convictions.*
- One’s religious affiliation, or lack thereof, should be irrelevant to one’s standing in the civic community.*
- Government should not prefer one religion over another or religion over nonreligion.*
- Religious instruction is best left to our houses of worship, other religious institutions, and families.*
- America’s historic commitment to religious pluralism enables faith communities to live in civic harmony with one another without sacrificing our theological convictions.*
- Conflating religious authority with political authority is idolatrous and often leads to oppression of minority and other marginalized groups as well as the spiritual impoverishment of religion.*
- We must stand up to and speak out against Christian nationalism, especially when it inspires acts of violence and intimidation—including vandalism, bomb threats, arson, hate crimes, and attacks on houses of worship—against religious communities at home and abroad.*

Whether we worship at a church, mosque, synagogue, or temple, America has no second-class faiths. All are equal under the U.S. Constitution. As Christians, we must speak in one voice condemning Christian nationalism as a distortion of the gospel of Jesus and a threat to American democracy.

These goals and stated mission of this organization echo the teachings of Jesus. We would do well to adopt both communally (as a church) and individually (as Church members). We have utilized materials from this organization focusing on the threat of Christian Nationalism for our Adult Contemporary Issues class in the past; this year, we will be offering sessions focusing on the threat of Christian Nationalism again as we seek to counter the oppressive expression that is Christian Nationalism and reclaim the Joy of Church.

God wants us to be Joyful!

The Joy of Church was expressed fully this past year as we celebrated our Centennial. We had the honor of welcoming the Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer, the UCC General Minister and President, as our guest for the weekend. He spoke at our Centennial Celebration at the University of Missouri Healthcare Pavilion (Farmer’s Market) with over 230 guests in attendance. “The Joy of Church” was

PASTOR'S REPORT (CONT.)

his theme as well, and he talked about how the United Church of Christ has brought joy to so many who have been disenfranchised by more oppressive religious expressions. He told personal stories of his encounters with people whose lives have been transformed by expressions of the UCC. It was a very moving presentation.

John also preached Sunday morning at our Celebration Service where we rededicated the congregation for another 100 years of service. The Rev. Dr. Jerry Jordan, the Rev. Fred Brandenburg (former pastors), Virginia (Rathert) Zetterberg and Brandon Brown (former Music Coordinators) were also guests that day, making presentations in worship and helping us celebrate. The worship service that Sunday was almost two hours long! Nobody seemed to mind, however; it was a glorious time.

While the Centennial was our main focus this past year, there were also many other expressions of faithful witness we shared in 2023. Some of our joyful expressions included:

- We celebrated the diversity of the Columbia community with a wonderful COMO Values Diversity breakfast at the Holiday Inn Expo Center.
- We increased our involvement with Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary School, accompanying them on a field trip to St. Louis and combining our choirs for their Fine Arts Night.
- We held our annual Habitat for Humanity fundraising breakfast, raising funds for this great organization
- We celebrated a glorious Easter Breakfast together, thanks to the Men's and Women's Fellowship working together.
- We sponsored the Women's Day of Music at the Blue Note, showcasing often overlooked female musical performers in the Columbia area.
- We celebrated the 20th Anniversary of our Little One's Day Out Preschool Ministry.
- We staffed a booth at the Earth Day celebration in Peace Park, taking action against Climate Change.
- We organized a tour of historical markers on the Columbia African American Heritage Trail and the "Blind" Boone Home.
- We entered into partnerships with Coyote Hill and the Girl Scouts to use our facilities on a monthly basis for their meetings and support groups.
- We held another great Vacation Bible School, teaching the stories of our faith to the next generation.
- We helped sponsor of the Mid-Missouri Pridefest, staffing a booth there where we gave "glitter blessings" to folks who have been shunned by more oppressive religious communities
- We welcomed a new Music Coordinator (Casey Wood) and Organist/Accompanist (Steve Jannetti) as we said goodbye to Brandon Brown and Amy Crousore.
- We adopted a new Strategic Plan and an increased budget for 2024, challenging ourselves to live into new challenges and to embrace the Joy of Church.
- We celebrated the Advent Season with our annual Advent Cantata/Advent Banquet.
- We went Christmas Caroling to four area care facilities, and we had a moving Christmas celebration.
- Our Membership & Care Ministry Team and our Health Ministry Care Team organized "Lunch and Learn" sessions to address issues facing our community and their healthcare needs
- Our Prayer Team was reestablished, providing focused prayer for our congregation members and the world

PASTOR'S REPORT (CONT.)

What a year full of joy!

To top it off we completely remodeled our Church Sanctuary with new carpet, new drapes, new “stained glass” windows, a new Chancel backdrop and an entirely new paint job. During the three months the Sanctuary was being refurbished, we worshipped together in the Fellowship Hall. Some described our summer worship as “cozy” which has many implications! The quarters were tight, but that closeness bred a certain intimacy that we all enjoyed together. On Rally Day, September 10, we entered the New Century Sanctuary, dedicating it to God’s Glory.

We have great plans for 2024, and those plans focus on expressing the Joy that God has given us in the gift of the Christ Child. We have book studies and Bible Studies planned, as well as our regular annual events. Some of our plans are financial, as we look at new and creative ways to address budgetary issues (come to our Stewardship Celebration on March 17 for more information) and some of them involve sharing the Good News with our communities (bring a friend and stay for our “Bring a Friend Sunday” April 21). Some of them involve Outreach and Advocacy issues (we will be focusing on forming a “Green Team” this year) and some on restoration of dignity for those who have been disenfranchised by others (The Inclusion & Affirmation Team is working on projects addressing this). All of them, however, focus on the Joy of Church and reclaiming that Joy from those who try to weaponize Christ.

In the end, as Christians, our call is clear: to embody Christ’s love and wisdom in all that we say and all that we do. If we can be that embodiment of Christ, our joy will be complete. All of the “bullet points” listed above, our accomplishments from 2023 and our plans for 2024, focus on Christ’s love and wisdom. With Christ as the cornerstone, how can we be anything but joyful?

April 7, 1968 were the groundbreaking ceremonies for this new church building on I-70 Drive Northwest. The cornerstone was laid, and the pastor at the time, Rev. Jerry Jordan, recalls a young lad questioning, “how do you put a cornerstone in a round church?”

Rev. Jordan’s answer was that the church is much more than (then) present membership. *“We are part of the company of believers through the years, the communion of Saints, the Cloud of Witnesses of all ages. Without the dedicated servants of the past there would be no church today.”*

“This whole enterprise,” Rev. Jordan concluded, “is built on ‘The Cornerstone’ which is Jesus Christ, our foundation and the one who leads us forth in faith and service. The congregation that has bravely ventured forth from Hitt Street to I-70 Drive Northwest, from a Gothic structure downtown to a modern, round Sanctuary in the suburbs, is built on this very foundation; Christ, ‘The Cornerstone’ of the church.”

Christ is our cornerstone; and this entire congregation is built upon it. We invite you to be part of the Joy of Church as we learn and grow together in faith, in love, and in the sense of Joy that God brings us. Our joy comes from within, not from without, because Christ is our light. Come, share the Joy!

Blessings to you!
-Pastor Rick



CLERGY PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Purpose: The Clergy Personnel Committee meets quarterly to support Pastor Rick and discuss developments within the congregation (including celebrations and appreciations, as well as concerns and disappointments). We discuss Pastor Rick's goals and progress toward them. Our goal is to have open communication and address concerns before they grow and to engage in support for and reflection with the pastor.

Our committee consists of: Three members serving staggered three-year terms, one member elected by the Congregation each year at the Annual Meeting. John Graves, Pat Forward and Kristy Hayward made up the committee this year.

Account of 2023: The Clergy Personnel Committee continued to meet regularly with Pastor Rick to offer support and feedback for the ongoing ministry of Columbia UCC. The committee also discussed the wider church setting (Western Association, Missouri Mid-South Conference) as it relates to Columbia UCC. We solicited feedback from Council Members to compile the Annual Pastoral Evaluation, and presented it to Pastor Rick in September.

Our Quarterly Meetings with Pastor Rick were:

May 8, 2023

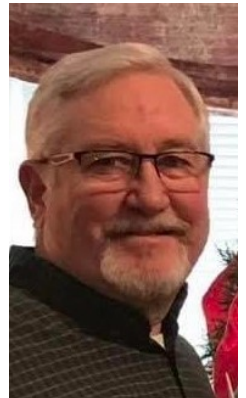
June 22, 2023

September 7, 2023

November 20, 2023

Many thanks to Pat Forward and Kristy Hayward for their continued dedication on the committee.

Respectfully submitted,
John Graves



ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Purpose: To perform daily activities that assist the Pastor, Church Council, church family, LODO, and outside organizations that utilize our space. Office duties include: e-mail, phone, snail-mail, weekly bulletins, PowerPoint Presentations for Sunday Services, the monthly Communicator (newsletter), organization, purchasing and restocking of supplies, maintenance of accounts, assisting with events, and general office skills.

What a year 2023 was! Between the New Century Sanctuary Remodel and our 100 th Anniversary Celebration, it is hard to see the small details that were accomplished this year. Luckily for you, this year's annual report should break it all down! In the office this year, we were lucky enough to combine the positions of Administrative Assistant and Financial Secretary into one single position. The benefits of this include having someone who is always in the office during hours of operation with access to pay bills, write checks, and enter deposits. Combining these positions helped us to accomplish more than ever before in the office.

For the administration part of the position, we got more organized in the office, incorporated new computer programs in our daily operation, and updated our servers. One example of how we got more organized involves the organization of the supply drawer in the office. This drawer had a ton of random things thrown into it. By organizing it, we can clearly see that we were over-ordering on many of our office supplies. Now, we can see exactly how much of each item we have, and we should not have to order a lot of these supplies for a very long time. In addition to the drawer, we also organized the paper closet. The closet now has distinct labels that show exactly what goes where, and ordering will be much more efficient in the future. The most fun thing we did this year was incorporate a few new programs. This includes the program I use to design flyers for the church! Another program allowed us to merge PDFs for cleaner bulletin images and Friday Updates. With the forms program, we were able to have everyone sign-up for the 100 th Anniversary and keep track of them with a Google Spreadsheet that the form created for us. Another accomplishment this year was when we updated our servers. It turns out that our computer programs were close to no longer working on our old servers because of how outdated they were. Lucky for us, our IT Support Team at NextLevelIT had our backs and made sure we were kept up-to-date. I am sure more was accomplished, but these are just a few of the highlights that will make everyday life so much smoother.

Since we covered the administration part of the job, now we should talk about the finance part. Since we combined the positions, we got the finances all back on track in the QuickBooks system, started paying bills online, prepared New Century Sanctuary updates, and developed spending reports for each of the ministry teams. To start, let us talk about finances. In QuickBooks, we record all incoming and outgoing money. This year, we decided it would be best if every bit of the outgoing money had memos to make it so anyone could look back and see exactly how we were spending money. In the past, there was just a general memo at the top or no memo at all, but with the changes brought on by combining the positions, we now have itemized detail on the spending side of QuickBooks. In addition, we now have access to pay all our bills online (except phone and IT). Before, we would write checks for every single bill, and with the financial person only available once a week, these payments would occasionally be late. Luckily, most of the places we pay bills to have online payment options, so now we are never late! Also, our business checks cost us about a dollar piece, so this will also help us save even more money.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (CONT.)

To add to the excitement, this year we had a huge remodel for which we had to pay several contractors. To keep the council up to date on this, we kept a spreadsheet on the New Century Sanctuary funds. This told us how much money came in versus how much money was spent. Not only that, but it also designated each category of the renovation. Was the money spent on the carpet, the drapes, the wood trim, etc.? Everything was accounted for and kept in a tidy file that was viewable anytime. Probably the biggest and best change this year came in the form of the spending reports. Each month this year, I prepared a detailed report for each ministry team about where their funds were going. Why is this such a great improvement? I am glad you asked! This helps break down each area of spending and helps prepare the budget for the next year. Because of these detailed reports, we can create a more detailed budget that does not just have general categories, but more in-depth ones. As you can see, this year was a great year for this position.

Now, it is time for me to close this up. Last year, I started working here around the time this report came out. One of my first tasks was to write an article for this report, but I didn't know what to write. Someone told me that I should just introduce myself, so that is what I did. This year, though, I accomplished so much that I had to share it with everyone. This year, unfortunately, I am also leaving and moving back home. After starting work here, I never thought I would leave. Everyone here became like family to me, and I hate leaving this behind. The only good news is, I get to leave one of my best friends behind in my place . . . Alexandra Roper. I hope you all love her as much as I do and treat her wonderfully as you have treated me.

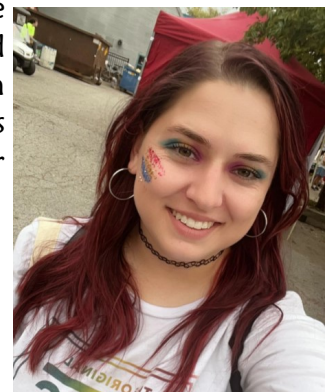
Respectfully Submitted,
MJ King, Administrative Assistant



With that heartfelt goodbye, I will say hello! My name is Alexandra Roper, but you can just call me Alex. I've been living in Columbia for the last several years. I moved here from the St. Louis area in 2016 to attend Mizzou. I graduated in December 2020 with a Bachelors degree in Digital Storytelling, a minor in Human Development and Family Sciences, and a certificate in Multicultural Studies. I've always been involved in the arts in some way, whether that be photography, painting, scrapbooking, crafting, etc. My love of photography allowed me to expand my portfolio into my Digital Storytelling degree (which basically means I know how to produce photos, videos, and podcasts.) In my free time, I enjoy hiking outside, working on my car and driving, taking photos, singing karaoke, volunteering, and hanging out with my friends- one friend being MJ.

When MJ told me she was moving, I was heartbroken but also so excited for her to have new adventures. I've known her for years now and she has told me multiple times how much she has loved working here at CUCC. The day after she told me she was leaving, she called me up asking if I'd like to interview for her position. Of course, I said yes. She has trained me these first few weeks and has done incredible. It's been touching to see how many people care for her as she cares for them. MJ has told everyone that I will do great, but I know I have big shoes to fill in her place and I will do my best to be here for everyone through everything.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alexandra Roper, Administrative Assistant



MUSIC COORDINATOR

Purpose: The purpose of this position is to meet the sacred music needs of our congregation by coordinating the music and directing the choir on a weekly basis. Music is chosen that correlates with the lectionary and themes put forth by Pastor Rick Oberle for each Sunday. This position seeks to include church members and provide diverse music offerings to meet the needs of the CUCC congregation.

In my previous home of Ogden, Utah I'd spent 8 wonderful years as the director of choirs at Box Elder High School. This involved work with 6 different choirs and annual stage musicals. Outside of the school, I also worked regularly as a keyboardist for jazz and pop bands in the western United States.

My life as a 1st year Masters of Choral Conducting student at the University of Missouri is busy and fulfilling. In addition to my coursework I assistant-direct the Choral Union Symphonic Chorus and I am the instructor of record for the University's pop/vocal jazz ensemble Hitt Street Harmony. I moved to Columbia Missouri in August 2023, and quickly began my tenure as music coordinator for the Columbia United Church of Christ. Though I have only been here 5 short months, the music-making has been plentiful and beautiful.

Little did I know when I began that I would quickly be part of such a momentous celebration. As part of the CUCC 100 year celebration, I was able to musically share in a service with not only our Celebration Singers and Chapel Ringers but many former CUCC congregants and 2 former directors. We had musicians in the sanctuary that represented 50 years of worship in Columbia. Additionally we were able to involve a wonderful soloist, Ronnie Wilson, from the University.

We have been blessed by weekly anthems from the Celebration Singers as well as monthly preludes from the Chapel Ringers. These groups are a joy to work with. Not only is our congregation blessed with strong musicianship, but individuals who are committed to the hard work of creating beautiful music.

We are fortunate to be aided in our music-making with three wonderful University students who serve as choir section leader. Quin Wilson-tenor and Shannon Martin-alto are both seniors in music education and they are currently working as student teachers. Katie Jones-soprano is a freshman in vocal performance. I am always impressed by their commitment and the way they demonstrate leadership in their singing.

In October, after the departure of long-time organist Amy Crousore, we joyfully welcomed incoming organist, Steve Jannetti. Steve lives in Jefferson City with his wife Valerie and is currently teaching middle school music for Columbia Public Schools. Not only is Steve a wonderful organist/pianist, but he is also an excellent singer and is a great asset as a bass singer on the choir's acapella numbers.

I look forward to a great 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,
Casey Wood



FELLOWSHIP

GROUP

REPORTS

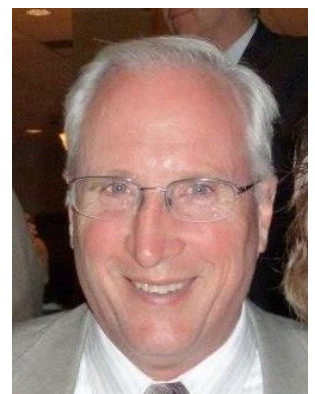
MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Purpose: To provide an organized program for men of the church for fellowship, education, service, and outreach.

Activities/Highlights:

- * Raised \$2,400 during a breakfast fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity on February 11, 2023.
- * Hosted a chili cook-off on March 19, 2023, along with the New Century Sanctuary Renovation committee. Proceeds from the gray bowls and dessert auction went toward the sanctuary renovation.
- * Partnered up with the Women's Fellowship to serve breakfast following the Easter sunrise service and donated \$112 to the sanctuary renovation.
- * Donated to Voluntary action Center and the New Century Sanctuary Renovation.
- * Set-up the nativity scene for the holiday season.
- * Assembled treat bags for the children to have after the Christmas program.

Respectfully Submitted,
Doug Privitt, President of Men's Fellowship



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Purpose: Women's Fellowship provides an opportunity for women to become acquainted, express caring and concern, grow in spirituality, and contribute to Christian service.

Activities:

Women's Fellowship meets in the Church gathering area on the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 a.m. After a tasty brunch, one of our members leads a discussion from the study guide. In May we finished the series Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight. In September we started a new series – Sacred Encounters – the Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts. This series highlights our awareness of Jesus and God in our midst and challenges us to be open to act and to share our faith. We conclude the morning with a business meeting.

We strive to be an active and contributing entity in CUCC's life and have served those purposes this year by hosting the STOP Human Trafficking Coalition of Central Missouri Christmas dinner, providing lunch for a Health Ministry Team Lunch n Learn, and hosting and serving a funeral dinner. We also bought and delivered poinsettias to our Church's homebound members.

Women's Fellowship appreciates your support of our annual Christmas bazaar: selling friendship soup, jams and jelly, honey, Christmas crafts and cookbooks. Thanks to Mary Lorber-Solt, Jolene Hackman, and Carol Deurmeyer for their donations of honey items and crafts. The funds raised are distributed to local charities. (See Treasurer's Report)

Highlights:

In June we hosted a tea party, learning about the history of tea, sampling various tea and scones, and crafting our own party hat to wear and take home. Thanks to Melba Shaffer and Corinne Remeika for their contributions to our fun.

Officers:

Co-Presidents, Jo Ellen Grace and Jolene Kirchoff; Secretary, Ginny Van Hove; Treasurer, Brenda Muench

We would love for you to join us.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jolene Kirchoff, Women's Fellowship Co-Presidents



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP (CONT.)

The following are donations made in 2023 with money raised through fundraisers and monthly giving of Women's Fellowship members.

| Donation Made To: | Amount Given |
|--|------------------|
| Turning Point | \$200.00 |
| True North | \$200.00 |
| Cedar Creek Riding Academy | \$200.00 |
| LOVE Columbia | \$200.00 |
| Primrose Hill Adult & Teen Challenge | \$200.00 |
| CUCC LODO playground equipment | \$200.00 |
| Church Women United (Columbia Chapter) | \$261.00 |
| Funeral expense, luncheon | \$100.00 |
| Tablecloths, for funeral and church use | \$75.57 |
| Poinsettias for home bound church members (10) | \$69.90 |
| Human Trafficking Christmas luncheon | \$42.00 |
| Total | \$1748.47 |

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda Muench, Women's Fellowship Treasurer



PRAYER SHAWL

Prayer Shawl Mission: Our mission group has been active since January 2022, and we continue to meet monthly. We currently average 4-8 knitters/crocheters a month, and our main mission is completing prayer shawls, lap robes, and neck shawls. These are given to people for various reasons as determined by Pastor Rick.

Symbolic blessings of these items are performed periodically during a church service. Blankets of flannel and fleece are also made and given out by Pastor Rick on the appropriate occasions, such as baptisms.

Prayer squares, which consist of a foam heart stitched inside of a small fabric square, are available for anyone to give to friends, family, or anyone experiencing difficult or challenging times. These are a reminder for everyone in any uncertain situations that there are people who love them and care about them. Small cards are included with the church address with these items.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Trout



QUILTERS

Purpose:

This is a fellowship and service group for anyone who wishes to quilt or learn to quilt. We meet in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m., including a BYOY (bring your own bag) lunch. We welcome anyone who would like to join us working on the quilt, or working on their own handcraft project, such as knitting, cross-stitch, embroidery, etc.

2023 Members: Alice Moon, Corinne Remeika, Mahree Skala, Jean Strothman, Ginny Van Hove, Juanita Veigard and our newest member Janet Mehmert.

Activities/Highlights:

- * We completed Jo Behymer's king-size, blue cross-stitched blocks quilt. She was very pleased with our work and said we did an excellent job of quilting.
- * Juanita trusted us to quilt her latest creation: a queen-size Christmas Braid. You can catch a glimpse of this distinctive pattern as it is one of the opening shots to CUCC's homepage, "Welcome to Columbia UCC". It was fun to see this unusual pattern come together.
- * Berneice Helle did an excellent job of piecing her king-size quilt top: each block had a unique patchwork configuration. We enjoyed the challenge of deciding the possible quilting patterns for the various blocks. This work of art is now a treasured heirloom of Paula and Mark Wilson in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary. Congratulations!!
- * Our needles are never cool for long... We are currently quilting Jolene Hackman's mother's light blue cross-stitched blocks—another family heirloom

Contributions/Donations:

- * We contributed \$1000.00 to the General Fund of Columbia United Church of Christ.

SPECIAL NOTE: CUCC QUILTERS

1998 - 2023

25 Years - 66 Quilts

A bit of our history: LuAnn Ianke and Ruby, her mother-in-law, had an idea to start a quilting group here at CUCC. They put a notice in the Sunday bulletin on February 22, 1998 inviting anyone interested to a meeting at Ruby's home on Saturday, February 28 at 9:00 a.m.

Fourteen women attended and put in \$5 each as seed money for supplies. Our first totally from scratch quilt was a queen-size nine-patch with various fabrics. It was completed in early December. We decided to have a Christmas raffle to give everyone a chance to see our handiwork. Raffle tickets were printed and sold for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Hal Shaffer was the lucky winner with the winning ticket.

In recent years, we transitioned to offering our quilts via silent auction or doing a special order quilt for a specific person. We contributed the proceeds to CUCC's general fund and to the Festival of Sharing. This has continued to be our pattern over the years with occasional contributions to other charities as available.

Thank you CUCCers for your business! We treasure your trust in us.

Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Van Hove



STATISTICAL REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS & REPORTS

As of January 1, 2023 CUCC membership was 322 people.

In the year 2023:

- 9 members were added
- 2 members died
- 11 members transferred to other churches
- 4 members resigned their membership

As of January 1, 2024, CUCC membership was 314 people.

The following statistics reflect data that was reported to the CUCC office in 2023. To keep our database up to date, please remember to let the church office know of any changes in contact information, weddings, births, or other status changes as they occur. Thank you!

Baptisms: 1

* Von Sterling Walker 10/15

New Members Received: 9

* Becky Weston 01/22
 * Jerry Kiesling 01/22
 * Lloyd Mickelson 01/22
 * Becky Gordon 01/29
 * Dennis Hotle 06/04
 * Ruth Hotle 06/04
 * Jedd Schneider 06/04
 * Deborah Long Birkes 12/03
 * Sofia Marienfeld Crenshaw 12/03

Confirmations: 1

* Sofia Marienfeld Crenshaw 12/03

Weddings officiated thru CUCC: 1

* Keith Birkes & Deborah Long 10/05

Births in the CUCC family: 2

* Harper Joyce Furney 05/10
 * Joseph Lee Heine 11/09

Funerals officiated thru CUCC: 4

* Marilyn Brennan 02/03
 * Rev. Connie Tanis 04/29
 * Jack Brennan 06/01
 * Ed Kaiser 11/09

Membership Loss due to Death: 2

* Mark Brumbach 06/27
 * Ed Kaiser 10/29

Membership Loss by Resignation: 4

* Nancy Schultz 03/14
 * Katrina Boogerd 05/10
 * Gary Wipfler 12/31
 * Holly Wipfler 12/31

Membership Loss by Transfer: 11

* John Tummons to CUMC 01/11
 * Elizabeth Tummons to CUMC 01/11
 * Sam Tummons to CUMC 01/11
 * Sonja Erickson to PCUSA 02/28
 * Rachel Erickson to PCUSA 02/28
 * David Erickson to PCUSA 02/28
 * Rusty Monhollon to PCUSA 02/28
 * Peter Jaberg to St. Luke's UCC 04/02
 * Lisa Jaberg to St. Luke's UCC 04/02
 * Lily Jaberg to St. Luke's UCC 04/02
 * Don Helmreich to St. John's UCC 11/01

Respectfully Submitted,
 Pastor Rick Oberle



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 2023

| Average Attendance: | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| January | 145 | 137 | 145 | N/A | 56 | 91 |
| February | 135 | 103 | 123 | 48 | 65 | 93 |
| March | 134 | 101 | 112 | 51 | 91 | 197 |
| April | 155 | 154 | N/A | 86 | 109 | 115 |
| May | 139 | 126 | 28 | 77 | 75 | 87 |
| June | 126 | 106 | 39 | 77 | 73 | 77 |
| July | 111 | 96 | 29 | 60 | 67 | 70 |
| August | 117 | 122 | 35 | 64 | 69 | 77 |
| September | 118 | 133 | 60 | 88 | 95 | 89 |
| October | 147 | 122 | 49 | 96 | 81 | 96 |
| November | 152 | 126 | 73 | 90 | 104 | 102 |
| December | 145 | 132 | N/A | 98 | 97 | 108 |
| Average for the Year | 136 | 122 | 65 | 74 | 82 | 92 |

| Special Services | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Ash Wednesday | 42 | 63 | 58 | 36 | 40 | 54 |
| Maundy Thursday | 29 | N/A | N/A | 25 | 6 | N/A |
| Good Friday | 56 | N/A | N/A | 27 | 41 | 49 |
| Easter Sunrise | 24 | 39 | N/A | 33 | 22 | 22 |
| Christmas Eve | 235 | 257 | 171* | 177 | 161 | 138 |

*2020 Christmas Eve- Views on You Tube

Respectfully Submitted,
Office Staff and Volunteers

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST STATISTICAL DATA 2023

The data below is from the 2023 Statistical Profile of the United Church of Christ (copies are available in the church office) as published by the UCC Center for Analytics, Research, and Data (CARD). This data is based on reports submitted in early 2023 by United Church of Christ congregations across the denomination.

MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Congregations: | 4852 | 4794 | 4724 | 4603 |
| Members: | 802,356 | 773,539 | 745,230 | 745,230 |
| Average Membership: | 167 | 163 | 160 | 456 |
| Average Worship Attendance: | 67 | 60 | 52 | 52 |
| Average Confirmations: | 1.4 | 1 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| Average New Members: | 6 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.6 |
| Average Deaths: | 3.6 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.9 |
| Average Transfers out: | 1 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| Average Child Baptisms: | 1.7 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| Average Adult Baptisms: | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 |

CONGREGATIONAL IDENTITY

| | |
|---|--|
| Churches with less than 100 worship attendance: | 92.3% |
| Churches with 100-150 worship attendance: | 67.9% |
| Churches that are Open and Affirming: | 36.2% (1698 UCC churches as of 12/31/23) |
| Churches that are Handicapped Accessible: | 86.8% |
| Churches that have a website: | 71.2% |
| Churches that offer virtual worship services: | 80.8% |
| Churches that were founded prior to 1957: | 84.9% |
| Churches that were founded after 2000: | 4.6% |

CLERGY

| | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| Number of ordained ministers (includes retired): | 9662 | 9611 | 9465 |
| Number of active ordained ministers: | 6475 | 6334 | 4107 |
| Ordained ministers serving in local churches: | 3048 | 2939 | 2808 |
| Number of retired or emeriti ministers: | 3187 | 3277 | 4198 |
| Number of authorized ministers under 40 years old | 7.9% | 8.2% | 7.8% |
| Number of authorized ministers over 50 years old | 79.2% | 78.6% | 78.4% |
| Number of authorized ministers over 60 years old | 56.6% | 56.5% | 57.4% |

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Columbia United Church of Christ Balance Sheet — December 31, 2023

| | <u>Dec 31, 23</u> |
|---|----------------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Checking/Savings | |
| BCNB Checking Account | \$79,102.93 |
| BCNB Payroll Account | <u>\$260.81</u> |
| Total Current Assets | \$79,363.74 |
| Other Assets | |
| United Church Funds Main Account | \$126,815.64 |
| United Church Funds Building Fund | \$67,312.02 |
| United Church Funds Mader Estate | \$21,443.59 |
| United Church Funds Scholarship | \$130,497.81 |
| United Church Funds Transportation | \$7,805.93 |
| United Church Funds Memorial | \$9,853.02 |
| United Church Funds Nurture & Education | \$10,321.95 |
| United Church Funds Youth Ministry | \$7,205.65 |
| United Church Funds Young Adult/Campus Ministry | \$2,373.82 |
| Total Other Assets | <u>\$383,629.43</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$462,993.17 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |
| Current Liabilities | |
| Credit Cards | |
| Chase Credit Card | \$2,400.66 |
| Mastercard Credit Card | <u>\$</u> |
| Total Credit Cards | \$2,400.66 |
| Other Current Liabilities | |
| Prepaid LODO Tuition | <u>\$204.00</u> |
| Total Liabilities | \$2,604.66 |
| Equity | |
| Investment Income/Loss | (\$135,029.36) |
| Opening Balance Equity | \$134,198.98 |
| Retained Earnings | \$465,107.17 |
| Net Income | <u>(\$3,888.28)</u> |
| Total Equity | <u>\$460,388.51</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | <u>\$462,993.17</u> |

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Columbia United Church of Christ **Income Statement** — December 31, 2023

| | Jan - Dec 23 | YTD Budget | \$ Over Budget |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | |
| Income | | | |
| Joyful Giving | \$336,261.54 | \$384,908.00 | (\$48,646.46) |
| LODO Overhead & Workmen's Comp | \$5,935.17 | \$6,000.00 | (\$64.83) |
| Other Income | \$4,374.59 | \$1,000.00 | \$3,374.59 |
| Fellowship Activities | \$650.00 | \$1,000.00 | (\$350.00) |
| Total Income | \$347,221.30 | \$392,908.00 | (\$45,686.70) |
| Expense | | | |
| ADMINSTRATION | | | |
| Bank Service Fees | \$1,639.24 | \$800.00 | \$839.24 |
| Computer Equip/Software/Services | \$2,948.38 | \$2,000.00 | \$948.38 |
| Computer Maintenance | \$3,083.91 | \$3,000.00 | \$83.91 |
| Employment Fees | \$3,036.74 | \$400.00 | \$2,636.74 |
| Kindred Fees | \$2,765.24 | \$2,000.00 | \$765.24 |
| Lay Travel-Registration | \$897.14 | \$1,000.00 | (\$102.86) |
| Mileage | \$2,376.55 | \$2,000.00 | \$376.55 |
| Printer Copies | \$3,224.46 | \$1,800.00 | \$1,424.46 |
| Office Supplies | \$1,665.06 | \$3,000.00 | (\$1,334.94) |
| Postage | \$2,088.18 | \$1,800.00 | \$288.18 |
| Staff Continuing Education | \$249.00 | \$1,000.00 | (\$751.00) |
| Telephone/Internet | \$4,256.75 | \$3,500.00 | \$756.75 |
| Total ADMINSTRATION | \$28,230.65 | \$22,300.00 | \$5,930.65 |

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Columbia United Church of Christ **Income Statement** — December 31, 2023

| | Jan - Dec 23 | YTD Budget | \$ Over Budget |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| BUILDING & GROUNDS | | | |
| Building Insurance | \$17,363.50 | \$15,000.00 | \$2,363.50 |
| Elevator Maintenance | \$5,013.13 | \$4,775.00 | \$238.13 |
| Maintenance | | | |
| Building | \$4,575.11 | \$3,000.00 | \$1,575.11 |
| Cleaning Service | \$7,898.36 | \$9,000.00 | (\$1,101.64) |
| Grounds | \$8,921.00 | \$6,500.00 | \$2,421.00 |
| Minor Repairs | \$1,495.70 | \$3,000.00 | (\$1,504.30) |
| Supplies | \$1,462.65 | \$1,200.00 | \$262.65 |
| Utilities | \$26,941.50 | \$26,000.00 | \$941.50 |
| Total BUILDING & GROUNDS | \$73,670.95 | \$68,475.00 | \$5,195.95 |
| MINISTRY TEAMS | | | |
| FELLOWSHIP & HOSPITALITY | | | |
| All Church Activities | \$4,221.90 | \$4,000.00 | \$221.90 |
| Supplies | \$246.73 | \$0.00 | \$246.73 |
| Total FELLOWSHIP & HOSPITALITY | \$4,468.63 | \$4,000.00 | \$468.63 |
| FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP | | | |
| Giving Tuesday Expenses | \$49.00 | \$600.00 | (\$551.00) |
| Offering Envelopes | \$1,636.77 | \$0.00 | \$1,636.77 |
| Stewardship Expenses | \$260.00 | \$535.00 | (\$275.00) |
| Total FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP | \$1,945.77 | \$1,135.00 | \$810.77 |
| INCLUSION & AFFIRMATION | | | |
| COMO Values Diversity Gathering | \$270.00 | \$0.00 | \$270.00 |
| Guest Honorariums | \$250.00 | \$400.00 | (\$150.00) |
| Pridefest Registration | \$500.00 | \$500.00 | \$0.00 |
| Supplies | \$775.25 | \$1,600.00 | (\$824.75) |
| Total INCLUSION & AFFIRMATION | \$1,795.25 | \$2,500.00 | (\$704.75) |
| MEMBERSHIP & CARE | | | |
| Member to Member Programs | \$1,130.27 | \$1,100.00 | \$30.27 |
| Member To Visitor/Guest Programs | \$988.75 | \$600.00 | \$388.75 |
| Total MEMBERSHIP & CARE | \$2,119.02 | \$1,700.00 | \$419.02 |

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Columbia United Church of Christ **Income Statement** — December 31, 2023

| | Jan - Dec 23 | YTD Budget | \$ Over Budget |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| NURTURE & EDUCATION | | | |
| Adult Bible Study | \$0.00 | \$350.00 | (\$350.00) |
| Adult Education | \$561.98 | \$1,800.00 | (\$1,238.02) |
| Christmas Program | \$54.95 | \$300.00 | (\$245.05) |
| Confirmation Class | \$614.23 | \$1,000.00 | (\$385.77) |
| Nursery Worker | \$1,920.00 | \$2,600.00 | (\$680.00) |
| Sunday School | \$3,616.51 | \$3,000.00 | \$616.51 |
| Vacation Bible School | \$1,508.17 | \$2,500.00 | (\$991.83) |
| Young Adult Ministry | \$2,111.38 | \$1,600.00 | \$511.38 |
| Youth Ministry | \$2,303.83 | \$3,400.00 | (\$1,096.17) |
| Total NURTURE & EDUCATION | \$12,691.05 | \$16,550.00 | (\$3,859.95) |
| OUTREACH & ADVOCACY | | | |
| Community Assistance | \$591.97 | \$750 | \$158.03 |
| Local Missions | \$16,281.50 | \$15,550 | \$731.50 |
| Special Mission Project | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$0.00 |
| Wider Mission | \$9,500. | \$9,500 | \$0.00 |
| Total OUTREACH & ADVOCACY | \$31,373.47 | \$30,800 | \$573.47 |
| WORSHIP & MUSIC | | | |
| Christian Copyright License | \$411.09 | \$400.00 | \$11.09 |
| Guest Ministers | \$1,000.00 | \$1,200.00 | (\$200.00) |
| Guest Musicians | \$1,810.00 | \$500 | \$1,310.00 |
| Instrument Tuning | \$350.00 | \$750.00 | (\$400.00) |
| Music Program | \$226.71 | \$3,300.00 | (\$3,073.29) |
| Non-Music Programs | \$1,160.91 | \$1,000.00 | \$160.91 |
| Section Leaders | \$5,300.00 | \$2,700.00 | \$2,600.00 |
| Sheet Music | \$726.41 | \$500.00 | \$226.41 |
| Supplies | \$795.19 | \$1,200.00 | (\$404.81) |
| Total WORSHIP & MUSIC | \$11,780.31 | \$11,550.00 | \$230.31 |
| Total MINISTRY TEAMS | \$65,648.50 | \$68,235.00 | (\$2,586.50) |

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Columbia United Church of Christ **Income Statement** — December 31, 2023

| | Jan - Dec 23 | YTD Budget | \$ Over Budget |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| OTHER MINISTRY PROJECTS | | | |
| 3% Joyful Giving Transfer | \$10,152.83 | \$11,547.00 | (\$1,394.17) |
| Heritage Team | \$9,598.30 | \$3,000.00 | \$6,598.30 |
| OCWM | \$15,000.00 | \$15,000.00 | \$0.00 |
| Visioning Expenses | \$1,304.22 | \$1,200.00 | \$104.22 |
| Western Association Contribution | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 |
| Total OTHER MINISTRY PROJECTS | \$37,055.35 | \$31,747.00 | \$5,308.35 |
| LEADERSHIP | | | |
| MUSIC LEADERSHIP | | | |
| Accompanist | \$8,059.71 | \$8,775.00 | (\$712.29) |
| Music Program Coordinator | \$16,261.36 | \$15,500.00 | \$761.36 |
| Total MUSIC LEADERSHIP | \$24,321.07 | \$24,275.00 | \$46.07 |
| PASTOR | | | |
| Continuing Education | \$288.55 | \$500.00 | (\$211.45) |
| Health/Dental Insurance | \$28,307.90 | \$26,316.00 | \$1,991.90 |
| Housing | \$21,886.08 | \$21,886.00 | \$0.08 |
| Pastor Expense | \$951.65 | \$1,000.00 | (\$48.35) |
| Pension | \$11,478.46 | \$12,410.00 | (\$931.54) |
| Salary | \$59,802.87 | \$59,780.00 | \$22.87 |
| Social Security | \$6,115.92 | \$6,116.00 | (\$0.08) |
| Total PASTOR | \$128,831.43 | \$128,008.00 | \$823.43 |
| STAFF | | | |
| Administrative Assistant | \$29,089.11 | \$24,960.00 | \$4,129.11 |
| Custodian | \$7,980.95 | \$7,930.00 | \$50.95 |
| Church Pension Annuity | \$0.00 | \$300.00 | (\$300.00) |
| Financial Secretary | \$4,128.54 | \$7,622.00 | (\$3,493.46) |
| Pay Taxes-FICA | \$4,374.96 | \$5,128.00 | (\$753.04) |
| Workmen's Comp. Insurance | \$1,780.00 | \$1,850.00 | (\$70.00) |
| Year End Bonuses | \$1,685.25 | \$1,500.00 | \$185.25 |
| Total STAFF SALARY | \$49,563.81 | \$49,290.00 | \$273.81 |
| Total Expense | \$407,321.76 | \$392,333.00 | \$14,991.76 |
| Net Income | (\$60,100.46) | \$578.00 | (\$60,678.46) |

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Columbia United Church of Christ **Income Statement** **LODO Budget Report - December 2023**

| | Jan - Dec 23 | Annual Budget | \$ Over Budget |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | | |
| Income | | | |
| Little Ones Day Out Tuition | \$188,602.42 | \$201,457.60 | (\$12,855.18) |
| LODO Donations | \$2,264.60 | \$0.00 | \$2,264.60 |
| Tuition Deposit | \$5,000.00 | \$4,000.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| Supply Fees | \$440 | \$0 | \$440 |
| Enrollment Fees | \$1,420.00 | \$800.00 | \$620.00 |
| Late Payment/Late Pickup fees | \$114.00 | \$0 | \$114.00 |
| Total Income | \$197,841.02 | \$206,257.60 | (\$8,416.58) |
| Expense | | | |
| Fax | \$360.00 | \$360.00 | \$0.00 |
| Advertising | \$211.55 | \$250.00 | (\$38.45) |
| Maintenance | \$3,487.39 | \$250.00 | \$3,327.39 |
| Utilities | \$4764.00 | \$4764.00 | \$0.00 |
| Special Events | \$1,224.18 | \$1,350.00 | (\$125.82) |
| Staff Appreciation | \$2,650.91 | \$1,200.00 | \$1,450.91 |
| Staff Training | \$3,884.65 | \$1,635.00 | \$2,249.65 |
| Classroom Consumables | \$1,068.01 | \$2,100.00 | (\$1,031.99) |
| Classroom Durables | \$3,155.99 | \$1,700.00 | \$1,455.99 |
| Cleaning Supplies | \$152.03 | \$550.00 | (\$397.97) |
| Gross Motor Indoor/Outdoor | \$1,312.86 | \$700.00 | \$612.86 |
| Kitchen Supplies | \$32.70 | \$100.00 | (\$67.30) |
| Office Materials | \$1,465.34 | \$2,100.00 | (\$634.66) |
| Paper Goods | \$417.99 | \$1,000.00 | (\$582.01) |
| Snacks | \$1,989.93 | \$2,325.00 | (\$335.07) |
| Technology | \$3,542.40 | \$575.00 | \$2,967.40 |
| Total Little Ones Day Out Expenses | \$29,719.93 | \$20,959.00 | \$8,760.93 |
| Little Ones Day Out Payroll | | | |
| Director's Salary | \$35,252.45 | \$35,252.45 | \$0.02 |
| Assistant Director's Salary | \$10,416.67 | \$10,416.70 | \$0.03 |
| Staff Salaries | \$102,954.84 | \$117,025.99 | (\$14,071.15) |
| LODO FICA | \$11,369.73 | \$12,151.38 | (\$781.65) |
| LODO Year End Bonus | \$0.00 | \$2,000.00 | (\$2,000.00) |
| Workmen's Compensation | \$1,171.17 | \$1,111.88 | \$59.29 |
| Total Little Ones Day Out Payroll | \$161,164.88 | \$177,958.40 | (\$16,793.52) |
| Total Expense | \$190,884.81 | \$198,917.40 | (\$8,032.59) |
| Net Income | \$6,956.21 | \$7,340.20 | (\$383.99) |

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Columbia United Church of Christ Designated Funds Report — December 31, 2023

| | <u>Retained</u> | <u>Receipts</u> | <u>Disbursements</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Building & Grounds Fund | \$63,997.97 | \$68,262.19* | (\$23,810.85) | \$108,449.31* |
| Chiapas Mission Trip | \$1,384.29 | \$7,500.00 | (\$9,123.38) | (\$239.09) |
| CUCC Scholarship Fund | \$121,569.20 | \$20,009.82 | (\$11,081.21) | \$130,497.81 |
| Giving Tuesday | (\$250.00) | \$9,415.00 | (\$9,165.00) | \$0.00 |
| Mader Estate Fund | \$20,718.23 | \$3,449.84 | (\$7,744.48) | \$16,423.59 |
| Memorial Fund | \$9,477.23 | \$1,988.18 | (\$218.04) | \$11,247.37 |
| New Century Sanctuary | \$0.00 | \$152,653.56 | (\$152,653.56) | \$0.00 |
| New Century Sanctuary Windows | \$0.00 | \$39,569.05 | (\$39,569.05) | \$0.00 |
| Nurture & Education | \$9,316.04 | \$4,084.83 | (\$1,518.53) | \$11,882.34 |
| Outreach & Advocacy Fund | | | | |
| Camp MoVal | \$565.00 | \$0.00 | (\$565.00) | \$0.00 |
| Christmas Eve Offering (Fisher House) | \$0.00 | \$1,187.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,187.00 |
| Christmas in July | \$0.00 | \$730.02 | (\$730.02) | \$0.00 |
| Church World Service | \$35.00 | \$466.00 | (\$501.00) | \$0.00 |
| Crop Walk | \$0.00 | \$1,085.00 | (\$1,085.00) | \$0.00 |
| Eden Seminary Fund | \$25.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$25.00 |
| Every Child's Hope | \$25.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$25.00 |
| Festival of Sharing | \$80.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$80.00 |
| Food Bank of Central & NE MO | \$1,931.98 | \$1,491.00 | (\$3,244.98) | \$178.00 |
| Habitat for Humanity | \$50.00 | \$300.00 | (\$300.00) | \$50.00 |
| Health Kits | \$50.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$50.00 |
| Heifer Project | \$100.00 | \$40.56 | \$0.00 | \$140.56 |
| Loaves and Fishes | \$597.92 | \$0.00 | (\$303.28) | \$294.64 |
| Member Assistance | \$50.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$50.00 |
| Mobility Worldwide | \$560.89 | \$675.00 | (\$1,235.89) | \$0.00 |
| Neighbors in Need | \$0.00 | \$750.00 | (\$700.00) | \$50.00 |
| OGHS | \$0.00 | \$1,035.00 | (\$1,015.00) | \$20.00 |
| Refugee Resettlement | \$1,764.50 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,764.50 |
| Strengthen the Church | \$0.00 | \$364.00 | (\$364.00) | \$0.00 |
| Souper Bowl of Caring | \$0.00 | \$222.89 | \$0.00 | \$222.89 |
| VAC Families | \$100.00 | \$590.00 | (\$540.00) | \$150.00 |
| Wilkes Blvd | \$0.00 | \$770.00 | (\$770.00) | \$0.00 |
| Total Outreach & Advocacy Fund | \$5,935.29 | \$9,706.47 | (\$11,354.17) | \$4,287.59 |
| Transportation Fund | \$9,788.72 | \$0.00 | (\$1,844.73) | \$7,943.99 |
| Worship & Music Fund | \$3,265.17 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$3,265.17 |
| Young Adult/Campus Ministry | \$1,606.12 | \$353.73 | (\$52.53) | \$1,907.32 |
| Youth Ministry Fund | \$6,629.40 | \$1,373.71 | (\$974.88) | \$7,028.23 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$384,618.41</u> | <u>\$319,025.58</u> | <u>(\$267,769.61)</u> | <u>\$433,874.38</u> |

*Building Fund income/balance includes \$34,797.82 excess from New Century Sanctuary Remodel

FACILITIES USAGE

Purpose: To give account of our facilities' usage for the year, *according to the church calendar*. This is, in addition to regular Sunday morning activities: special worship services, outside organization events, member usage, and LODO usage.

To ensure this is an accurate account, please be sure to record your event on the online church calendar. If you don't have access to edit the online church calendar, talk to MJ!

Grand total of facilities usage in 2021 = 265

Grand total of facilities usage in 2022 = 353

Grand total of facilities usage in 2023 = 382

| Event | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Open & Affirming | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Ministry Meetings | 8 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 11 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 86 |
| Music | 8 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 69 |
| Quilters | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 52 |
| Special Events | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 26 |
| Fellowship | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 10 |
| Youth | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 17 |
| Conference Meetings | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Weddings | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Funerals | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Outreach | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Other | 3 | 5 | 6 | 10 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 59 |
| Wed. Book Study | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Staff Meetings | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 30 |
| Scouts | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 18 |

Respectfully Submitted,
MJ King, Administrative Assistant



2024 BUSINESS:

2024 BUDGET

(APPROVED November 12, 2023)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

APPROVED 2024 BUDGET

CUCC Income/Expense 2019-2024

| | BUDGET 2024 | Actual 2023 | BUDGET 2023 | Actual 2022 | Actual 2021 | Actual 2020 |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Income | | | | | | |
| Joyful Giving | \$404,153 | \$336,262 | \$384,908 | \$327,745 | \$351,924 | \$352,453 |
| Fellowship Activities | \$2,000 | \$650 | \$1,000 | \$654 | \$0 | \$0 |
| LODO Overhead | \$7,800 | \$5,935 | \$6,000 | \$5649 | \$5,522 | \$5,437 |
| Other | \$2,000 | \$4,375 | \$1,000 | \$459 | \$30,271 | \$665 |
| Total Income | \$415,953 | \$347,221 | \$392,908 | \$334,507 | \$387,828 | \$358,557 |

Expense

| Administration | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Computer Equipment/ Software | \$2,500 | \$2,948 | \$2,000 | \$1020 | \$347 | \$2,682 |
| Computer Maintenance | \$2,500 | \$3,084 | \$3,000 | \$2160 | \$4,266 | \$769 |
| Office Supplies | \$2,000 | \$1,665 | \$3,000 | \$2043 | \$3,000 | \$2,609 |
| Copier | \$2,200 | \$3,224 | \$1,800 | \$2298 | \$2,644 | \$1,720 |
| Payroll Expenses/Bank fees | \$800 | \$1,639 | \$800 | \$1408 | \$1,141 | \$914 |
| Kindrid Fees | \$2,000 | \$2,765 | \$2,000 | \$2006 | \$3,784 | \$2,775 |
| Postage | \$1,800 | \$2,088 | \$1,800 | \$1086 | \$1,252 | \$1,506 |
| Telephone/Internet | \$3,500 | \$4,257 | \$3,500 | \$4092 | \$4,146 | \$3,090 |
| Staff Continuing Education | \$500 | \$249 | \$1,000 | 0 | \$137 | \$0 |
| Lay/Staff Travel/Registration | \$1,000 | \$897 | \$1,000 | \$500 | \$11 | \$0 |
| Mileage | \$2,000 | \$2,377 | \$2,000 | \$1467 | \$974 | \$1,010 |
| Employment Fees | \$400 | \$3,037 | \$400 | \$2048 | \$744 | \$0 |
| Total Administration | \$21,200 | \$28,231 | \$22,300 | \$20,129 | \$22,445 | \$17,075 |

Ministry Teams

| Building & Grounds | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Building Insurance | \$17,000 | \$17,364 | \$15,000 | \$15,555 | \$13,591 | \$11,531 |
| Elevator Maintenance | \$4,900 | \$5,013 | \$4,775 | \$4,775 | \$5,038 | \$4,798 |
| Building Maintenance | \$3,000 | \$4,575 | \$3,000 | \$4,136 | \$3,620 | \$10,011 |
| Cleaning Service | \$7,800 | \$7,898 | \$9,000 | \$6,264 | \$8,250 | \$8,180 |
| Grounds Maintenance | \$6,000 | \$8,921 | \$6,500 | \$6,833 | \$7,630 | \$6,385 |
| Supplies | \$1,200 | \$1,463 | \$1,200 | \$1,369 | \$1,431 | \$0 |
| Minor Repairs | \$1,500 | \$1,496 | \$3,000 | \$886 | \$1,681 | \$16,193 |
| Utilities | \$26,000 | \$26,942 | \$26,000 | \$25,998 | \$24,656 | \$20,512 |
| Total Building & Grounds | \$67,400 | \$73,671 | \$68,475 | \$65,816 | \$67,918 | \$79,630 |

APPROVED 2024 BUDGET (Cont.)

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fellowship & Hospitality | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
| Fastnacht | \$1,000 | | | | | |
| Annual Meeting | \$200 | | | | | |
| End of Year Picnic | \$300 | | | | | |
| Rally Day | \$400 | | | | | |
| Trunk or Treat/Fall Party | \$200 | | | | | |
| Veterans Appreciation | \$100 | | | | | |
| Advent Banquet (catered) | \$1,000 | | | | | |
| Hospitality Supplies | \$1,000 | \$247 | | | | |
| Total Fellowship & Hospitality | \$4,200 | \$4,469 | \$4,000 | \$1,462 | \$4,400 | \$1,833 |
| Finance & Stewardship | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
| Stewardship Expenses | \$500 | \$309 | \$535 | \$582 | \$0 | \$789 |
| Offering Envelopes | \$1,500 | \$1,637 | \$600 | \$0 | \$204 | \$182 |
| Total Finance & Stewardship | \$2,000 | \$1,946 | \$1,135 | \$582 | \$204 | \$971 |
| Inclusion & Affirmation | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
| Pridefest | \$500 | \$500 | \$500 | \$730 | \$500 | \$0 |
| COMO Values Diversity | \$270 | \$270 | \$0 | \$270 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Honorariums | \$250 | \$250 | \$400 | \$168 | \$440 | \$0 |
| Supplies | \$1,700 | \$755 | \$1,600 | \$2,225 | \$834 | \$1,593 |
| Total Inclusion & Affirmation | \$2,720 | \$1,795 | \$2,500 | \$3,393 | \$1,775 | \$1,593 |
| Membership & Care | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
| Member Communications | \$200 | \$1,130 | \$1,100 | \$58 | \$816 | \$538 |
| Advertising | \$1,000 | \$989 | \$600 | \$1,186 | \$1,379 | \$152 |
| Guest Outreach | \$100 | | | | | |
| Health Care Ministry Team | \$500 | | | | | |
| Transportation Team | \$100 | | | | | |
| Total Membership & Care | \$1,900 | \$2,119 | \$1,700 | \$1,244 | \$2,240 | \$690 |

APPROVED 2024 BUDGET (Cont.)

| Nurture & Education | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Adult Education | \$900 | \$562 | \$1,800 | \$618 | \$522 | \$908 |
| Adult Bible Study | \$350 | \$0 | \$350 | 0 | \$1,000 | \$119 |
| Vacation Bible School | \$2,500 | \$1,508 | \$2,500 | \$2,911 | \$2,399 | \$1,254 |
| Christmas Program | \$100 | \$55 | \$300 | \$100 | \$150 | \$0 |
| Confirmation | \$100 | \$614 | \$1,000 | \$499 | \$915 | \$403 |
| Nursery Worker | \$2,600 | \$1,920 | \$2,600 | \$595 | \$210 | \$713 |
| Sunday School | \$3,000 | \$3,617 | \$3,000 | \$3617 | \$2,870 | \$1,995 |
| Young Adult/College Ministry | \$1,600 | \$2,111 | \$1,600 | \$1687 | \$1,106 | \$1,605 |
| Youth Ministry | \$3,400 | \$2,304 | \$3,400 | \$282 | \$1,357 | \$1,779 |
| Total Nurture & Education | \$14,550 | \$12,691 | \$16,550 | \$10,308 | \$10,580 | \$8,776 |
| Outreach & Advocacy | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
| Local Missions | \$16,000 | \$16,282 | \$15,550 | \$12,150 | \$13,015 | \$11,196 |
| Wider Missions | \$9,500 | \$9,500 | \$9,500 | \$10,709 | \$9,100 | \$7,500 |
| Special Mission Project | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$2500 | \$5,000 | \$5,000 |
| Community Assistance | \$750 | \$592 | \$750 | \$785 | \$1,012 | \$935 |
| Total Outreach & Advocacy | \$31,250 | \$31,373 | \$30,800 | \$26,144 | \$28,127 | \$24,631 |
| Worship & Music | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
| Copyright License | \$400 | \$411 | \$400 | \$384 | \$771 | \$0 |
| Guest Ministers | \$1,200 | \$1,000 | \$1,200 | \$200 | \$1,027 | \$800 |
| Guest Musicians | \$1,200 | \$1,810 | \$500 | \$1,125 | \$750 | \$0 |
| Section Leaders | \$6,000 | \$5,300 | \$2,700 | \$3,980 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Instrument tuning | \$500 | \$350 | \$750 | \$390 | \$330 | \$270 |
| Music Program | \$2,000 | \$227 | \$3,300 | \$1,947 | \$1,760 | \$1,078 |
| Sheet Music | \$1,000 | \$726 | \$500 | \$876 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Non-Music Programs | \$1,000 | \$1,161 | \$1,000 | \$1,216 | \$932 | \$917 |
| Supplies | \$1,000 | \$795 | \$1,200 | \$1046 | \$2,581 | \$1,040 |
| Total Worship & Music | \$14,300 | \$11,780 | \$11,550 | \$11,163 | \$8,198 | \$4,105 |
| Total Ministry Teams | \$138,320 | \$139,844 | \$136,710 | \$120,112 | \$123,442 | \$122,230 |
| Other Ministry Projects | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
| Heritage Team | \$100 | \$9,598 | \$3,000 | \$422 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Visioning | \$1,200 | \$1,304 | \$1,200 | \$1,226 | \$1,371 | \$1,323 |
| Our Church's Wider Mission | \$12,000 | \$15,000 | \$15,000 | \$15,000 | \$14,000 | \$12,996 |
| Western Assoc. Contribution | \$800 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$500 | \$1,000 | \$1,021 |
| 3% Joyful Giving Transfer | \$12,124 | \$10,153 | \$11,547 | \$16,192 | \$16,806 | \$7,500 |
| Total | \$26,224 | \$37,055 | \$31,747 | \$33,339 | \$33,177 | \$22,840 |

APPROVED 2024 BUDGET (Cont.)

Leadership

| Administrative Staff | Budget 2024 | Actual 2023 | Budget 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Administrative Assistant | \$30,940 | \$29,089 | \$24,960 | \$24,142 | \$24,952 | \$24,606 |
| Custodian | \$8,034 | \$7,981 | \$7,930 | \$4,778 | \$1,393 | \$1,760 |
| Church Pension Annuity | \$0 | \$0 | \$300 | (\$75) | (\$600) | \$300 |
| Financial Secretary | \$0 | \$4,129 | \$7,622 | \$7,400 | \$7,175 | \$7,034 |
| FICA/Taxes | \$5,200 | \$4,375 | \$5,128 | \$5,447 | \$4,342 | \$4,422 |
| Worker's Compensation Ins. | \$1,850 | \$1,780 | \$1,850 | \$1,685 | \$1,587 | \$1,101 |
| Year End Bonuses | \$1,500 | \$1,685 | \$1,500 | \$1,350 | \$1,500 | \$1,700 |
| Total Administrative Staff | \$47,524 | \$49,039 | \$49,290 | \$44,727 | \$40,349 | \$40,923 |
| | | | | | | |
| Music Staff Salaries | | | | | | |
| Accompanist | \$13,000 | \$8,060 | \$8,775 | \$8,520 | \$8,275 | \$8,034 |
| Music Coordinator | \$16,000 | \$16,261 | \$15,500 | \$14,667 | \$12,875 | \$12,721 |
| Total Music Staff Salaries | \$29,000 | \$24,321 | \$24,275 | \$23,187 | \$21,150 | \$20,755 |
| | | | | | | |
| Pastoral Leadership | | | | | | |
| Salary | \$62,769 | \$59,803 | \$59,780 | \$56,206 | \$54,044 | \$52,470 |
| Housing | \$22,980 | \$21,886 | \$21,886 | \$22,196 | \$20,744 | \$20,140 |
| Social Security | \$6,422 | \$6,116 | \$6,116 | \$5,998 | \$5,721 | \$5,555 |
| Pension | \$12,862 | \$11,478 | \$12,410 | \$10,470 | \$11,278 | \$10,210 |
| Health/Dental/Vision | \$29,367 | \$28,308 | \$26,316 | \$26,246 | \$26,769 | \$21,531 |
| Pastoral Expenses | \$1,000 | \$952 | \$1,000 | \$564 | \$1,314 | \$690 |
| Sabbatical Pastor | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$7,388 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Continuing Education | \$500 | \$289 | \$500 | \$155 | \$224 | \$417 |
| Total Pastoral Leadership | \$135,900 | \$128,831 | \$128,008 | \$129,222 | \$120,094 | \$111,013 |
| | | | | | | |
| Total Expense | \$398,168 | \$407,322 | \$392,330 | \$370,715 | \$360,657 | \$334,836 |
| Net Income/Expense | \$17,785 | -\$60,100 | \$578 | -\$36,208 | \$27,062 | \$23,721 |

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee for 2023 was formed and approved by the Church Council in February, 2023.

Members of the committee included: Carol Duermeyer, Carolyn Malicoat, Kennedy Lucas, Doug Privitt, Jim Loveless and Kurt Heine, as well as Rev. Rick Oberle.

Seven terms were up as of May 31, 2023. The team found people to fill all of these terms. Kurt Heine agreed to serve as Moderator, having completed two years as Vice Moderator. Tricia Price agreed to serve another two year term as Inclusion & Affirmation Ministry Team Chair and Mark Duncan agreed to serve another two year term as Outreach & Advocacy Ministry Team Chair. Jerry Kiesling agreed to serve as Vice-Moderator, Christine Staelens as Recording Treasurer, Mary Lorber-Solt as Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry Team Chair, and Judi Privitt as Membership & Care Ministry Team Chair. All are two year terms, and all were elected by the congregation at the May 21, 2023 Congregational Meeting.

The 2024 Nominating Committee (which will be appointed by the Council at our January meeting) will solicit recommendations for Council positions with terms ending May 31, 2024, as well as any other positions that may open. The 2024 slate of candidates will be voted on by the congregation at our Congregational Meeting May 19, 2024.

COUNCIL TERMS 2024-2025

Terms end May 31, 2024

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| *Secretary | Alethea Tennill |
| Treasurer | Sue Ann Schaefer |
| *Building and Grounds | Ted Dachroeden |
| Finance & Stewardship | Keith Birkes |
| Little One's Day Out | Lorry Dreier |
| *Nurture & Education | Pat Forward |
| Worship & Music | Mike Pierson |
| <i>*Eligible to run again</i> | |

Terms end May 31, 2025

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Moderator | Kurt Heine |
| Vice Moderator | Jerry Kiesling |
| *Recording Treasurer | Christine Staelens |
| *Fellowship & Hospitality | Mary Lorber-Solt |
| Inclusion & Affirmation | Tricia Price |
| *Membership & Care | Judi Privitt |
| Outreach & Advocacy | Mark Duncan |
| <i>*Eligible to run again</i> | |

Respectfully Submitted,
Kurt Henie, Moderator



NOTES:

Columbia
United Church of Christ

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